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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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9 January 1984

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BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

LIBYAN DOCTORS ARRIVE FOR VISIT--Gaborone, 28 Nov--A team of four Libyan medical doctors arrived in Botswana on Sunday, 19 November, to give free medical services to the people of this country. According to Brother Hadi Sabayee, a member of the People's Committee for Information and Culture in the Libyan People's Bureau in Gaborone, the team, which is called the Islamic Caravan, is visiting Botswana as part of their tour of African countries to give free medical services. The Libyan doctors have started working at the Princess Marina Hospital since Monday, 20 November. They will be in Botswana for 3 weeks and will also visit other parts of the country. [Text] [MB151120 Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 1 Dec 83 p 1]

CSO: 3400/412

SIX FRENCH COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 19 Nov 83 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] French-Chadian cooperation has just added to its assets six new agreements signed this morning by Idriss Miskine, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Claude Soubeste, the French ambassador.

The signing of these six agreements will enable France to assist Chad in various priority fields. The productive sector was favored with various interventions within the framework of agricultural development. But an important part is also being granted to the rehabilitation of administrative structures. The restoration of the former government palace will be retained. The other agreements concern limited actions in the fields of health, education and information. We are reproducing the communique published on the occasion of this ceremony.

At 10 am on Saturday, 19 November 1983, signature of six financing agreements between the Republic of Chad and the French Republic, for a total amount of 1,712,5 million CFA francs, took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The first agreement, No 21/C/DPL/93/TCH, entitled "Rural Development Project for the Sudanese Area of Chad (1983-84 campaign)," amounting to 600 million CFA francs, concerns the continuation of the integrated rural development financed jointly with the EDF. This project includes the following sections; development of cotton production, diversification of agricultural production (rice, peanuts), an increase in cereal food production, development of the agriculture-livestock association, support to the ONDR [Chadian National Office for Rural Development], assistance to agricultural vocational training centers and health protection groups (cattle).

The second agreement, No 215/C/DPL/83/TCH, entitled "Restoration of the Administrative Building Called the Government Palace in Ndjamena," for an amount of 500 million CFA francs, provides for the restoration of the administrative offices of this building.

The third agreement, No 216/C/DPL/83/TCH, entitled "Assistance to Public Health," for an amount of 300 million CFA francs, concerns two sectors:

--on the one hand, the Ndjamenya central hospital, for which the provision of drugs and medico-surgical equipment is envisaged,
--on the other, the major epidemic service in Abeche, for which the restoration of offices and the resumption of activities are envisaged.

The fourth convention, No 217/C/DPL/83/TCH, entitled "Support for the Training of Primary and Secondary School Teachers, Administrative Staff and Agricultural Technicians," for an amount of 62.5 million CFA francs, envisages accompanying funds for training:

--secondary school teachers in the Ndjamenya Higher Normal School,
--teachers holding the baccalaureat in normal schools for primary school teachers,
--administrative and management staff within the Technical College for Juridical, Economic and Management Sciences,
--agricultural technicians in the Sarh secondary school.

The fifth agreement, No 218/C/DPL/83/TCH, entitled "Putting 100 Short Wave Kilowatts into Service for the Ndjamenya radio station" (21st section), for an amount of 150 million CFA francs, should enable the Ndjamenya radio station to broadcast over the entire national territory.

The sixth agreement, No 219/C/DPL/83/TCH, entitled "Logistical Support for Technical Assistance" (2nd section), for an amount of 100 million CFA francs, concerns the restoration and fitting out of housing for new technical assistants, as well as the purchase and maintenance of vehicles for them.

9434
CSO: 3419/206

RESULTS OF MINISTER'S TOUR TO SURVEY FOOD SITUATION

Ndjamena INFO TCHAD in French 19 Nov 83 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Taher Abdeldjelil, minister of natural disasters, carried out an extended 21-day tour in the region of the Lake, Kanem, Ouaddai, Biltine and Batha, in order to study personally the worsening food and nutrition situation brought about by the drought and war.

The exceptional displacement of Chadian officials and representatives of international bodies working in our country was not spontaneous. It was a response to various messages and telegrams on the catastrophic food situation from the civil and military authorities in the disaster-stricken areas north of the Lake, Kanem, Biltine, Ouaddai and Batha. During the 3-week period, Taher Abdeldjelil noted for himself, on the spot, the disastrous food situation of the afflicted population and was able to verify the truthfulness of numerous reports from local officials in the region. The food situation in all the prefectures visited is more than disturbing. There are no harvests because it has not rained for several years. Food production is consequently nil, grazing nonexistent. Wells in the various regions have dried up because of a drop in the groundwater level. The soil in these regions, traditionally covered by abundant vegetation, is totally bare. Only here and there are seen a few puny, shriveled bushes, bare of leaves. The big trees, which have been dead for months, painfully recall seasons with normal rainfall. There is no animal life. The skeletons of enemy vehicles destroyed along the sandy roads add more desolation to this lifeless landscape. For the effects of the war have worsened the already precarious situation. The some 70,000 persons displaced to Kanem and the hundreds to Biltine cut a pathetic figure in the face of the precariousness of the present and the uncertainty of tomorrow.

Millet is very expensive and scarce. A bowl costs 500 francs in Nokou and Arada. The farmers' basic food in Biltine, in Abeche, is still the wild fruits called "cram-cram" sold at 25 francs a bowl in Biltine and 50 francs in Abougudam. Provisions of supplies do not succeed in allaying the hunger of the farmers and especially the totally destitute nationals of the BET [Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti], who abandon their families in Tchouna, Ziguei, Salal in order to seek supplies in Mao. Supplies are very insufficient and their distribution if often very poor. The portion of the individual ration is 416 grams for an unlimited time span. Quantities of supplies do not

reach the disaster victims, diverted either by the transporters themselves (this was the case for 726 bags of sorghum intended for the people of Melfi in Guera) or by the local authorities. To confront this alarming food situation, the members of the action committee have taken emergency measures. During a meeting held on 3 November 1983 in Salal, they decided to ship 4,000 tons of supplies over a 30-day period to the three stricken localities in Kanem to help displaced persons, to set up committees responsible for distributing supplies in each prefecture, subprefecture, canton and village. These committees are made up of civil and military officials, chiefs of service, and representatives of the different levels who appear more capable of initiating concrete distribution. But since outside aid is insufficient to solve this generalized food crisis, Chadian officials and representatives of internatinnal bodies have decided to direct this aid in the future toward settling the farmers, encouraging them to stay in their regions by creating community development centers in the wadis, with the assistance of the ONDR [Chadian National Office for Rural Development], until such time as the farmers will produce enough by themselves to meet their needs.

9434
CSO: 3419/206

CONGO

PANA DIRECTOR GENERAL DISCUSSES TASKS OF AGENCY

AB160632 Dakar PANA in English 1705 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Dakar, 15 Dec (PANA)--The People's Republic of the Congo will give the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA) constant encouragement and assistance in its efforts to place the African struggle in its true context.

The statement was made on Wednesday at the PANA headquarters by Daniel Abibi, Congo's minister of information and telecommunications, when he signed, on behalf of his country, the convention establishing the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY. He was accompanied by Djibo Ka, Senegalese minister of information and telecommunications.

Mr Abibi said that the signing of the convention by Congo demonstrated "the re-affirmation of her unfailing desire to join the host country of the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY to place PANA in a position to always accomplish its tasks."

However heavy this task, he continued, African states which are exposed to various problems are waging a sustained struggle to build "an economy in accordance with their aspirations," consolidate their independence and strengthen African unity.

Earlier, Cheick Ousmane Diallo, director general of the PANA-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, disclosed that in the next 6 months the agency hopes to transmit regularly for 8 hours (1000 to 1800 GMT) a total of 15,000 words daily in its news service.

Mr Diallo said that the efforts would be made to consolidate the structures of the agency. Two objectives are envisaged in this regard, he said. "First the complete operation of our telecommunication network through the provision of adequate links and appropriate equipment to enable every country in Africa to receive PANA's services, and, secondly, the creation of a working pattern whereby increased productivity in our daily operations should quickly contribute to establishing our organization as the best of its kind capable of meeting the aspirations of Africa," Mr Diallo said.

"PANA has two major tasks to accomplish with regard to information," he declared. "It should promote a more substantial free flow of news among African countries,

a task which can only be effectively accomplished by a general reduction of press tariffs and the promotion of development communication."

"At the political level," he continued, "PANA intends to open in Africa and during the whole of next year hold a debate on Pan-Africanism to give new impetus to the only doctrine capable of mobilizing and motivating, at the continental level, our youth in the quest for a great dream, idea and action."

The director-general of PANA paid tribute to Congo and Senegal--two countries which pay their contributions regularly to the budget of the PANA-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY--"for demonstrating their commitment to the new struggle through bilateral and multilateral cooperation in Africa."

"Such a commitment is, indeed, evidence of the determination of both Presidents Sassou-Nguesso and Abdou Diouf to take destiny fully in their own hands and open to the youth of Africa, the gates of a new hope for African unity," he added.

He thanked the Congolese minister for his visit, which he described as "one of those events which enable us to end happily this year marked in Africa and in the contemporary history of the press by the launching of the operations of the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY."

CSO: 3400/419

REASONS FOR AUSTERITY 1984 OPERATING BUDGET NOTED

Brazzaville MWETI in French 12 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Rigobert Douniama: "Credibility"]

[Excerpt] The cabinet, presided over by the chief of state, established yesterday the 1984 draft operating budget at 279.5 billion CFA francs.

In announcing this budget, Minister Daniel Abibi, the government spokesman, stated that it had "appeared necessary to slow down slightly the increase in equipment expenditures."

In other words, what is involved--economic circumstances make this necessary--is an austerity budget. The word "austerity" is no longer astonishing. It is even topical in this period of crisis marked by the strongest recession the world has experienced since the 1930's.

A recession whose lot is summed up in reduced investments, increased unemployment, expanded underemployment and worsening poverty.

These ills spare no one. Not even the so-called developed countries whose growth rates, now very weak, seldom reach 2 percent, coming very far short of the record rates they almost ostentatiously displayed in the 1970's.

In these same industrialized countries, the unemployment rate averaged 9 percent at the end of 1982, or 32 million persons deprived of work. This decline in the so-called central economies is inevitably accompanied by a sharp drop in the so-called peripheral ones: those of the Third World countries, including the People's Republic of the Congo. This drop is expressed by a tumble in exports, due, on the one hand, to reduced demand by the developed world and, on the other, to a drop in commodity prices, including petroleum. A drop estimated at 13.2 percent on the average and exceeding this level for foodstuffs such as rice, peanuts and sugar.

The situation is getting even worse for the developing countries since they are obliged to buy, from the industrialized world, manufactured products whose prices, contrary to those of raw materials, always tend to climb. The phenomenon appears in a decline in the terms of exchange, whose rate has been close to 30 percent since 1970 for the least advanced countries.

Thus, in consideration of this acute crisis experienced by the world economy, ours included, our country's political administration has chosen an austerity budget. A budget adjusted to present economic circumstances, and in which investment yields to operation.

9434
CSO: 3419/198

MALIAN-CONGOLESE DRAFT COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

Brazzaville ETUMBA in French No 722, 12 Nov 83 pp 4, 8

[Text] Within the framework of strengthening the ties of friendship, solidarity and cooperation that exist between Mali and the People's Republic of the Congo, a delegation from the Congolese Labor Party went to Mali on the invitation of the Democratic Union of Malian People (UDPM).

The delegation was led by Comrade Combo-Matsiona, member of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, minister of labor and social welfare, and included, among others, Comrades Albert Foungui, division chief in the Department of Foreign Relations, and Marcel Essie, political adviser to the Political Bureau member, chief of the Foreign Relations Department, foreign affairs minister.

On conclusion of the talks between the two delegations, a cooperation agreement was signed.

We are publishing below the exact terms of this draft cooperation agreement.

The Congolese Labor Party and the Democratic Union of Malian People, prompted by the desire to strengthen and develop their mutual cooperation in order to deepen and strengthen the unity and solidarity of the progressive forces of the world in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism, for peace and social progress, have agreed on the following:

Article 1. The Congolese Labor Party and the Democratic Union of Malian People will initiate a regular exchange of delegations. These meetings will make it possible to exchange their experiences, to initiate thorough coordination, on the one hand, of the processes of building and developing their respective countries and, on the other, of the development of the regional, African and international situation.

Article 2. Both parties will be able, by mutual agreement or on the initiative of either party, to study the possibility of entering into actions aimed at strengthening the African peoples' struggle for independence and checking the maneuvers of imperialism for which the African continent remains the favorite terrain.

Article 3. Both parties will initiate regular exchanges of information, publications, photographs and other materials, making it possible to understand the policy and objectives pursued by the Congolese Labor Party and the Democratic Union of Malian People.

Article 4. Both parties will encourage and support the development of fruitful friendly relations between their trade union, women's and youth organizations and other social organizations in the two countries.

Article 5. In order to promote their friendly relations, both parties will support the development of cooperation between the governments of their respective countries in the political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

Article 6. Both parties will consider all other forms of cooperation deemed appropriate according to the experience and development of their relations.

They will support any initiative aimed at favoring beneficial cooperation within the organizations to which our two countries belong.

Article 7. In accordance with the interest shown by the Congolese party in a specific field, the UDPM will invite, during the validity of the present co-operation agreement, a delegation from the Congolese Labor Party to carry out a study visit to Mali to learn about the experience acquired by the Democratic Union of Malian People.

Article 8. In accordance with the interest shown by the Malian party in a specific field, the Congolese Labor Party will invite, during the validity of the present agreement, a delegation from the Democratic Union of Malian People to carry out a study visit to the People's Republic of the Congo to learn about the experience acquired by the Congolese Labor Party.

Article 9. The present draft agreement, which will enter into force on the date of its signature, is concluded for a period of 3 years, renewable by tacit agreement.

Done at Bamako on 2-11-1983

For the Congolese Labor Party
/s/ Bernard Combo-Matsiona, Member of
the Central Committee of the Congolese
Labor Party, Minister of Labor and
Social Welfare

For the Democratic Union of Malian People
/s/ Bouille Siby, Secretary to the Organiza-
tion of the UDPM Central Executive
Board

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CSO: 3419/198

CONGO

BRIEFS

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR 1982--Brazzaville--The Congo's 1982 balance of payments shows a surplus of 146 billion CFA francs, according to the national balance of payments committee, which met last 7 November. This same source states that this surplus is attributable basically to the rise in oil production and in the rate of the dollar. The dollar, the currency used in settling petroleum product sales, represented, in fact, nearly 90 percent of total Congolese exports. Moreover, the evolution of long-term movements of foreign capital in the private and public sectors is expressed by a sizable contribution of 147 billion CFA francs, thus emphasizing the attractive credit character enjoyed by the Congo. The national committee also disclosed for the first time in years a deficit of 27.6 billion CFA francs between expenditures and receipts. Expenditures, in fact, doubled from 1981 to 1982, with 205 billion CFA francs. It is pointed out that the deficit is being financed basically by exchange reserves from operations with France (ACL). [Text] [Brazzaville BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN DE L'ACI in French 10 Nov 83 p 2] 9434

CSO: 3419/198

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU RETURNS FROM WORKING VISIT TO KEMBATTA-HADIYA

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 22 Nov 83 pp 1, 5

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived here yesterday afternoon winding up a two-day working visit to Kembata-Hadiya Province of Shoa Region.

During the visit to the Province, Comrade Chairman Mengistu inaugurated a modern 250-bed hospital named after him and financed at a cost of 10 million birr by the Government, and Southern Synod of the Evangelical Church, the Catholic Church and public contribution to serve over two million inhabitants of the Province.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu also opened an exhibition in Hosaana Saturday depicting the political, economic and social activities of Kembata-Hadiya Province and later inspected a park with swimming pool and other facilities in the town built with public contributions.

On departure from Hosaana, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was given a warm send off by Comrade Debela Dinssa, COPWE Central Committee Member and COPWE Representative for Shoa region, Comrade Abebe Belayneh, Chief Administrator of Shoa region and COPWE Central Committee Member, Comrade Petros Gebre, COPWE Representative of Kembata-Hadiya provincial COPWE, and thousands of the towns people and the surrounding areas.

CSO: 3400/396

ETHIOPIA

DPRK DELEGATION TOURS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ARSSI

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Assela (ENA)--The visiting delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) led by Comrade Kong Jin Tae, alternate Politbureau member of the CC of the Workers Party of Korea and Vice-peasants' service cooperative, the Hurcil of DPRK, yesterday toured various agricultural development schemes in Arssi region.

These include the Hitossa district peasants' service cooperative, the Huruta-Hitossa peasants' producers cooperatives, the plant and animal development activities run by the Arssi Rural Development Unit and the Ardaita Cooperative Training Institute.

Comrade Kong Jin Tae noted, on the occasion, that the development activities underway in Arssi region were encouraging.

The delegation was welcomed on arrival here earlier in the day by Comrade Geleta Gemechu, Chief Administrator of Arssi region and Chairman of the regional development campaign committee, along with other officials of government agencies and representatives of mass organizations.

The delegation of the DPRK was accompanied during its tour of development schemes in Arssi region by Comrade Mersea Ejigu, Head of the general planning sector of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council with the rank of minister.

CSO: 3400/397

MENGISTU CONCLUDES TOUR OF REGIONS WITH DPRK DELEGATION

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 29 Nov 83 pp 1, 5

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, arrived here yesterday afternoon concluding his working visit to the Bahr Dar and Debre Tabor Provinces of Gojjana and Gondar Regions, respectively and to Bale region.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu yesterday toured the various facilities of the Agarfa multi-purpose Peasants training Centre in Bale and also observed the construction of the Amigna-Horo producers cooperative village which is part of the Centre.

Present during the visit were members of the visiting Korean delegation led by Comrade Kong Jin Tae, alternate Politbureau member of the CC of the Workers Party of Korea and Vice Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Ministers, COPWE Central Committee members and other senior Government Officials.

On arrival at the Agarfa multi-purpose Peasants Training Centre, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was accorded warm welcome by the Deputy Director of the Centre Comrade Mengistu Adele, and Comrade Antench Wedu, Administrator of the Centre, and the entire staff of the trainees of the centre.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu toured the various facilities while Comrade Kong Jin Tae and the delegation led by him were apprised on the objectives and contribution of the Centre.

According to briefings given him at the Centre, the first batch of 1,045 peasants is in turn training another 2,000 people in scattered localities.

Comrade Kong Jin Tae was highly impressed by the programmes of the Centre and by the fact that its trainees continue to share their experiences with community members in their respective home localities.

Comrade Kong Jin Tae, who availed himself of his presence in the Centre to address peasants in a class, expressed strong conviction of the major role the school would play in Socialist formation in rural Ethiopia. He observed that the implementation of the directives of the Revolutionary Government were of pivotal importance in the successful operation of the school.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu accompanied by the DPRK Vice-Premier and other members of the delegation, later visited the peasants village and the Amigna-Horo peasant producers cooperative where they were given briefings on activities there.

On arrival at Goba Airport, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was welcomed by Comrade Cezahegn Workie, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE Representative for Bale Region, Comrade Godana Tuni, Chief Administrator of Bale Region, representatives of government agencies and mass organizations, and thousands of enthusiastic Goba residents.

During his two-day tour of Debre Tabor Province, Gojjam Region, Comrade Chairman Mengistu inspected the construction site of the Northern Ethiopia multi-purpose Peasants Training Centre, the peasants village around Woreta, the Town of Bahr Dar including the new airport and oil mill under construction.

Earlier on Sunday Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam visited various development projects and institutes in Bahr Dar province, Gojjam region.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu visited the Lake Tana reservoir, the Gojjam-Gondar zonal production and planning office, the Bahr Dar petrol depot, the construction work on an office complex for mass organizations in Gojjam and the newly built Tana Hotel.

According to explanations given during Comrade Chairman Mengistu's tour, the Lake Tana control dam provides for ensuring a continuous flow of water to the Tis Abay Hydro-Electric Power Dam and the Tis Abay Falls and the diversion of water to the Upper Beles Agricultural Development Unit.

The 12.2 million birr control dam project being constructed by the Ethiopian Electric Light and Power Authority (EELPA) would be completed within 18 months, while the construction work on the Gojjam-Gondar zonal production and planning office would commence full operation within two months.

The petrol depot whose construction work is also nearing completion has a 2,000,800 litre capacity.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu also visited the construction site of the complex for mass organizations in the region which cost over one million birr and is expected to be completed shortly.

During his inspection, Comrade Chairman Mengistu met pertinent officials to whom he gave additional instructions and assured them of the assistance of the Revolutionary Government for the successful completion of each of the ventures.

Workers engaged in the projects accorded hearty welcome to Comrade Chairman Mengistu during the tour.

Comrade Kim Jin Tae, alternate politbureau member of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Vice-Premier of the Administrative Council of the DPRK, ministers, COPWE Central Committee members, top government officials and members of the DPRK delegation were present during the tour.

ETHIOPIA

ERITREAN GROUP TOURS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN MASSAWA

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 22 Nov 83 pp 1, 5

[Text] Asmara (ENA)--A team of the Eritrea Regional development Congress led by its chairman, Comrade Tefera Wonde, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Eritrea region, last week toured development activities in Key Bahr province.

During its three-day working visit, the team was briefed in the port of Massawa by Comrade Girmai Kidane-Mariam, COPWE representative of Key Bahr province, on the political, economic and social undertaking launched in the province within the framework of the Red Star Multi-faceted Revolutionary Campaign in Eritrea region.

Prominent among the development projects toured by the team were the facilities of Massawa port, the Massawa cement factory, the salt works, the ice factory, the Massawa hospital, a multi-purpose auditorium for peasants in Gindaa town, an agricultural centre and a brick factory in the same town.

Speaking to representatives of government agencies and mass organizations, religious leaders and different nationalities living in Key Bahr province Comrade Tefera Wonde recalled the victories scored by the Ethiopian broad masses over expansionists, counter revolutionaries and anti-people elements. He said that inhabitants of the province are now actively engaged in reconstruction efforts in a relaxed manner because the secessionist gangs have been crushed by the sacrifices paid by the Revolutionary Army.

Comrade Tefera stated that the Eritrea regional COPWE office will provide the necessary support to the inhabitants of Key Bahr province to enhance development activities and accelerate reconstruction efforts in the province.

Present during the tour were Comrade Brig Gen Kumalichew Dejene, military Commissar of Eritrea region and COPWE Central Committee member Comrade [word indistinct] Tsegay, Deputy Administrator of Eritrea region and other officials.

CSO: 3400/396

DEFENSE MINISTRY REVIEW SEMINAR'S PARTICIPANTS SHARE EXPERIENCES

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 29 Nov 83 pp 1, 6

[Text] The three-day seminar organized here by the Ministry of National Defense to review the ministry's work programmes and plan implementation during fiscal year 1982-83 and to discuss the contents of same during the current Ethiopian year wound up Sunday.

The seminar was chaired by Comrade Lt Gen Tesfaya Gebre-Kidan, PMAC Standing Committee member, Minister of National Defence and COPWE Executive Committee member.

The review and exchange of views were anchored on the decisions and directives of the Revolutionary Government and COPWE and provided the participants with the opportunity to share experiences gained by force and sector commands in party formation, socialist economic construction and the creation and maintenance of a dependable defence bulwark.

Explanatory briefings were made by senior officers on the programmed and methodical implementation of the proclamation providing for the introduction of a National Military Service scheme. Sources close to the seminar said wide-ranging discussions were made on the recommendations thus submitted. Also discussed at the seminar was the manner in which the Revolutionary Armed Forces can discharge its internationalist obligation.

The seminar was described as a great success.

Closing the seminar, Comrade Lt Gen Tesfaye Gebre-Kidan said the seminar was highly valuable and reminded participants of their responsibility to make maximum use of the benefit derived from the parley.

The seminar was attended by Comrade Brig Gen Gebreyes Welde-Hanna, Head of the Main Political Department of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and COPWE Central Committee member, force and sector commanders, department heads and ranking military officers. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/395

LEMMA STRESSES IMPORTANT ROLE OF MASS ORGANIZATIONS

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 27 Nov 83 pp 1, 2

[Text] Comrade Lemma Gutema, COPWE Central Committee Member and COPWE Representative for Addis Ababa said yesterday that it was the duty of every responsible and committed mass organization office-bearer to expose fellow executive body members who directly or indirectly weaken the association which they were elected to serve.

Comrade Lemma Gutema made the statement while opening a day-long seminar organized by the Addis Ababa COPWE to help enable office-bearers of mass organizations to promote their working relationship by exchanging experiences.

He stated that it was incumbent on every genuine citizen to expose elected office-bearers who overtly or covertly attempt to subvert the proper functioning of mass organizations.

Comrade Lemma further noted that mass organizations had immensely contributed to the success of the Popular Revolution through their participation in the economic, political and social fields of endeavour as well as through engagement in the armed struggle against counter-revolutionaries and other subversive elements.

Comrade Lemma pointed out, however, that mass organizations had at the same time been infiltrated by office-bearers who spared no effort to subvert the Revolution and said every effort and precaution needs to be made to ensure that only genuinely committed revolutionaries are elected to mass organizational executive bodies.

Commending the role of the youth in the revolutionary process, Comrade Lemma nonetheless noted that there have been weaknesses in REYA leadership. He said the replacement by new comrades of REYA office-bearers who have failed to live up to their responsibility is and should be a continuing process which contributes to the strengthening of the association. Every co-operation rendered towards the fulfilment of the tasks of REYA, it was pointed out, helps provide a guarantee for the emergence of a new generation worthy of wearing the mantle of the victories scored through bitter struggle.

Comrade Lemma also spoke of the efforts made to strengthen the REWA leadership through the elimination of erstwhile weaknesses and constraints and expressed confidence that the process would continue in the future.

Turning to the AETU, Comrade Lemma said the union was the oldest and the most experienced of mass organizations which came to the fore following the revolutionary upsurge. He at the same time noted the need for the leadership to be sufficiently class conscious and ideologically committed to be able to enable the AETU play its proper role in economic construction.

Comrade Lemma Gutema concluded his opening statement by underlining the pivotal role of mass organizations on the eve of party formation.

Present on the occasion were Addis Ababa COPWE Executive Committee members, Addis Ababa City Council Executive Committee members, Addis Ababa REYA, REWA and AETU Executive Committee members as well as zonal COPWE representatives and other mass organization office bearers. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/397

ETHIOPIA

REYA TEAM ASSESSES WORK OF FDJ BRIGADE MEMBERS

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Dec 83 pp 1, 5

[Article by Alemu Hailu]

[Text] A REYA delegation led by Comrade Mengistu Edo, member of the Central Participation Department of the National Youth Association recently inspected the progress of work being made by members of the "Werner Lamberz" FDJ Friendship Brigade at State Farms in Arssi and Bale regions.

The delegation, largely composed of a representative of the regional COPWE Youth Organisational Affairs as well as REYA Executive members in Arssi region, witnessed the enormous contribution being made by members of the Free German Youth (FDJ) in the maintenance and repair of combine harvesters which due to lack of spare parts have been out of use for some time.

Upon arrival at the Garadella state farm which is situated about one hundred and twenty kilometres from Assela, capital of Arssi region, Comrade Mengistu and members of the REYA delegation were accorded warm welcome by Comrade Wolfram Hein, leader of the "Werner Lamberz" Friendship Brigade as well as by Comrade Hans Peter Schwarz, representative of the FDJ Central Committee here in Ethiopia.

Driving fifty kms from Garadella to Herero-Hunti state farm, the REYA delegation was briefed on the activities of the Brigade members there. As he inspected the facilities and progress of work on the Herero State Farm, the leaders of the REYA delegation spoke to both Ethiopian and GDR comrades who informed him of the lack of spare parts and the efforts undertaken to bring the combine harvesters into order as a major means for attaining high efficiency in the reaping and threshing of the yield.

Comrade Abiye Gebre Medhin, a technician at the Herero State Farm told visiting journalists that since members of the "Werner Lamberz" Brigade are qualified engineers with high standard of technical know-how, he and his comrades have a lot to learn from them. Comrades Weimann and Schade on their part pointed out the problem of spare parts and added that they were doing their best to get the combine harvesters repaired.

Later the REYA delegation exchanged views with members of the Free German Youth (FDJ) at the Garadella State Farm, the Brigade's temporary settlement. The briefing centred on the problems of spare parts and the efforts undertaken by the Brigade members in the state farms at Garadella and Goffa (both in Arssi region) as well as Herero and Sirofta in Bale region.

According to Comrade Wolfram Hein, the Brigade's leader, the group first worked out a plan of work for the time between October 10 to December 11 based on the principles of socialist emulation. The Brigade members together with their Ethiopian Comrades started to emulate each other in skill and technical performance. They enumerated points of their emulation, determined criteria for assessing their work and the procedure of summing up the results. In this regard, during the first phase of the work plan the FDJ Brigade repaired twenty-four combine harvesters, that is two more over the plan.

The second phase of the work plan which ranged from November 2 to November 20 was characterised by a remarkable performance. Here the group repaired thirty-six combine harvesters thus showing an increase of two over the plan. However, during the third phase, which ranges from November 23 to December 11 the Brigade members are planning to repair the remaining twelve combine harvesters, provided spare parts are available.

The result so far achieved is really encouraging. As has been witnessed at the Herero State Farm, the repaired combine harvesters are actively reaping and threshing wheat and barley. The performance of these combine harvesters which were once out of order as a result of lack of spare parts is due to the hard work of the "Werner Lamberz" Brigade members who devoted all their abilities to work and produced more than was provided for by norms.

For their remarkable performance, members of the Brigade and the best Ethiopian workers have been honoured with awards. By so doing the FDJ Brigade members are promoting friendly ties and comradely mutual assistance.

Of great significance is the fact that they are exerting maximum effort to fulfil the plan as quickly as they could before they return home at the end of December.

Members of the "Werner Lamberz" Friendship Brigade are not only confined to repairing combine harvesters. They have also been taking active part in social and political activities. They have held talks with comrades from COPWE, the trade union REYA, the State Farm as well as representatives of mass organizations in which they explained the development of socialist agriculture in the GDR, the role of the FDJ in the economic front as well as in the struggle for peace and the significance of National Military Service in the GDR. Besides, they have organized sports festivals and solidarity bazaars.

Exchange of experience is an important aspect of progress. In this connection, members of the Brigade together with Ethiopian comrades take part in working out and implementing measures on spreading and introducing advanced experience. This necessarily influences the initiative of State Farm employees and helps to strengthen their resolve to work harder to build the new Ethiopia.

The "Werner Lamberz" Friendship Brigade is a symbol of proletarian internationalism and anti-imperialist solidarity.

CSO: 3400/396

HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR ON AWARD COMMISSION ENDS

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] The high-level seminar on the newly established Award Commission, presided over by Comrade Fisseha Desta, Assistant Secretary-General of the PMAC, COPWE Executive Committee Member and Chairman of the Award Commission, ended yesterday after deliberating on the contents and implementation procedures of the proclamation establishing the Commission.

The two-day seminar of the COPWE Central Committee office here also reviewed the organizational structure of the various committees of the Award Commission and work directive of the Commission. It was attended by PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee members, members of the 13-man Award Commission, ministers, COPWE regional representatives, commissioners and other officials.

In closing the seminar, Comrade Fisseha Desta expressed hope that on the basis of briefings and exchange of views, the participants were able to acquire useful and concrete work procedures for awarding medals and prizes to individuals, groups and organizations commensurate with their contributions towards the strengthening of the Ethiopian Revolution. He added that participants of the seminar are required to make careful considerations to ensure the selection of deserving comrades to be honoured for their contributions towards the progress of the country and the strengthening of the revolution in the political, economic, social, cultural and military fields.

Comrade Fisseha explained that the seminar participants are entrusted with the responsibility of making known in their respective localities the contents of the proclamation to be issued on the establishment of the Award Commission and other directives on the implementation of the pending proclamation. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/397

SEMINAR ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE OPENS

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 22 Nov 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] A seminar aimed at discussing various aspects of telecommunications equipment maintenance got underway at Africa Hall yesterday.

Speaking at the opening session of the seminar, Comrade Bekele Kebede, General Manager of the Operations Department of the Ethiopian Telecommunication Authority said that where activities and endeavours are so dependent on the services provided by the telecommunications, or telematics in its fullest context, the reliability and availability of such services are increasingly significant.

In the rural areas, where 80 percent of the population of many of African countries dwell, farming activities are enhanced through the application of modern telecommunications system, Comrade Bekele said, and emphasized the need for better quality service to the subscribers.

He also indicated the efforts being made in this area by the various administrations of African countries.

Addressing the meeting earlier, Dr Baczko, Co-ordinator of the International Communications Union (ITU) regional maintenance project, noted the importance of the infrastructure the socio-economic development of any nation and said that the advancement of a country nowadays depends greatly on the penetration of telecommunications services within the country.

Dr Baczko also explained the objectives of the seminar and expressed hope that the deliberations will result in concrete recommendations.

The resident representative of UNDP, Dr Kenneth King also emphasized the significance of telecommunications to the development and unity of Africa. He urged the participants to evolve the actions necessary for improving the service and rigorously implement them.

The seminar was organized by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Ethiopian Telecommunication Authority for the benefit for various countries of the Eastern and Southern African sub-regions, it was learnt. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/396

AETU INDUSTRIAL SECTOR BRANCHES IN WOLLO AWARDED PRIZES

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Dessie (ENA)--Six industrial sector branches of the All Ethiopia Trade Union (AETU) in Wollo region credited with having made significant contribution to the consolidation of the revolutionary process have been awarded prizes and certificates.

Also honoured were five provincial and one basic trade union. The industrial sector branches singled out for special praise were those of manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, construction and road building, transport and communications, retail and wholesale trade and service-rendering outlets.

The certificates and prizes were handed over by Comrade Gezahegn Endale, COPWE Ideological Affairs Head for Dessie town and Dessie Zuria province.

Comrade Yohannis Temere, AETU Central Committee Member and Chairman of the regional AETU, said the awards had done a commendable job in strengthening the organizational structure of their respective branch unions, disseminating Marxist-Leninist ideology among rank-and-file members and boosting production.

He said the unions were expected to, and should, play a vanguard role in efforts towards party formation, the building of a socialist economy and implementation of the National Military Service scheme.

CSO: 3400/397

WATER, SANITATION PROJECTS SEMINAR UNDERWAY

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 29 Nov 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] A fifteen-day seminar on the identification, implementation and financing of projects in the field of drinking water supply and sanitation got underway yesterday at Hotel D'Afrique here.

Sponsored jointly by the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank and Cefigre of France in cooperation with the Ethiopian Water Resources Commission (EWRC), the seminar brings together officials and experts from 19 English-speaking African and Arab countries who are involved in the preparation of investments and external financing in the field of drinking water supply and sanitation.

The parley was opened by Comrade Kefyalew Achamyeleh, EWRC Deputy Commissioner.

Among the seminar contents are macro and sector planning, cost benefit analysis, demand forecasting, water supply and sanitation tariffs, procurement of goods and services, operations and maintenance and training strategy. Emphasis will be placed on both urban and rural water supply aspects.

Comrade Kefyalew Achamyeleh declared the seminar open with a brief statement emphasising the significance of the study panel in view of the appreciation needed to execute projects in the water supply and sanitation project.

The Deputy Commissioner observed that familiarization with the techniques to prepare projects would not only provide a rational basis for investment decision but would also facilitate communication between donor agencies and beneficiaries.

Comrade Kefaylew was highly optimistic that participants will draw relevant experiences from the seminar, and apply them in their endeavour to give most of the developing communities access to water. He also noted that exchange of experiences and ideas would help to jointly seek and find appropriate and practical remedies to common problems.

He also appreciated the gesture of most international organizations in helping developing countries to attain the UN target of water supply and sanitation. He said that the present meeting was considered as part of the pledge of the developed countries and international development institutions to assist developing countries towards this end.

Speaking next, Mr Klas Ringskog, senior lecturer at the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank, said that in spite of the aspirations of world communities to realize their long-cherished desire to have water by the end of this century, the 1980s have started with a bad omen of serious world recession. He observed that this had also negative effects on world water supply and sanitation projects.

Mr Ringskog revealed that besides financial constraints, shortage in human resources and limitations in the services of specialized agencies also hamper the realization of the objective.

In this regard, he pointed out that the on-going seminar would be of great help in orienting the participants with the system of planning, execution and operation of the project.

On his part, Dr Rene Gouzes, Head of project Cefigre, underscored the activities of the centre he represented. He said that Cefigre, which is a French Government agency, considers water management mainly in developing countries in Africa, the Mediterranean border and in south east Asia.

Cefigre offers training to experts in the water resources field, organizes international studies of experts on topics related to water, facilitates the dissemination and exchange of information and provides technical assistance to open training centres.

Dr Gouzes hoped that the seminar will help in project execution endeavours and offer the participants opportunity to benefit from each other's experience. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/395

BRIEFS

CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE REGISTRATION--The registration of economic sector establishments within the 284 kebeles of the nation's capital started yesterday by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), to collect full statistical data in this area throughout the country. The CSO employs computers in its data gathering and analysis and has mobilized the necessary manpower for field work. The registration of economic units which started yesterday is progressing well according to observation made by a team of roving journalists. The registration of economic establishments will mainly focus on government, private and cooperative organizations engaged in trade, production and service rendering outlets. The move is expected to correct the irregularities and errors in issuing of licence. The needs of the ever-growing population of the capital could be met and public services adequately provided when the directions of the economic sector are properly identified, the CSO pointed out, adding that this could be done from the data that will emerge from the present registration drive. (ENA)

SEMINARS FOR PRODUCTION--Awassa (ENA)--A three-day skill upgrading seminar for agricultural professionals in the six provinces of Sidamo region, opened here yesterday with 100 participants, including provincial agricultural team leaders, district representatives, organizers and development workers. Opening the seminar, Comrade Berhane Meshesha, Head of Sidamo regional office of the Ministry of Agriculture said that the efforts made so far to lay the foundation for socialist economic structure in rural Ethiopia, in order to meet the needs of the peasantry and to alleviate social problems have been satisfactory. He urged the seminar participants to help boost production by teaching the peasantry the necessary skills for rural economic construction. The participants of the seminar will be briefed on planning, budgeting, general agricultural skills by experts from the regional office of the Ministry of Agriculture. They will also make field trips connected with their work. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1] Debre Berhan (ENA)--A three-day seminar aimed at strengthening development activities in six provinces of Shoa region got underway here yesterday with 153 agricultural experts taking part. Opening the seminar, Comrade Sora Addi, head of the area office of the Ministry of Agriculture in Shoa region emphasized that employees of the Ministry of Agriculture must play a prominent role to promote the development of the agricultural sector of the economy and expand socialist production relations in rural Ethiopia. Participants of the seminar will be briefed on planning, collection of agricultural data, inspection, production increase and distribution. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1]

RAWLINGS SPEAKS OUT ON FUTURE OF REVOLUTION

Havana PRISMA in Spanish Sep 83 pp 14-16

[Interview with PNDC Chairman Jerry Rawlings by Miguel Rivero; Accra, date not specified]

[Excerpts] There is a situation and an atmosphere of revolution in Ghana. That is the first impression one gets shortly after leaving the airport and seeing everywhere the small signs announcing the existence of the People's Defense Committees (the abbreviation PDC stands for "People's Defense Committees").

In late 1981, the young flight lieutenant John Jerry Rawlings deposed a regime of corrupt politicians and the Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) was formed.

The Republic of Ghana, with an area of 238,000 sq km, became black Africa's first independent country in 1957. A triumphal arch built near the coast reminds everyone of that memorable occasion.

It is a potentially rich country, having large resources of agricultural production (top world cacao producer until 1978), mines for extraction of diamonds, gold and manganese, and enormous timber and fishery reserves.

However, the country's resources evidently have gone into the hands of big multinational enterprises or could be found in numbered accounts of old Ghanaian politicians and military men in European banks.

The PNDC headed by Rawlings has promised to put an end to this situation. Some measures already have been adopted, and it is no coincidence that the forces of international reaction also have mobilized themselves. Rawlings has had to face four coup d'etat attempts in some 20 months of government.

The last attempt took place this past 19 June when a group of former military men entered the country from neighboring Togo. They succeeded in taking over the radio station for about 2 hours and threatened to bomb Osu Castle, seat of the PNDC government.

According to what friends told me, the young flight lieutenant assumed personal command of the loyal troops and from a helicopter directed the operations against the dissidents, who fled in terror. Some were killed in the attempt and others were captured by the PDC, which were immediately mobilized to safeguard the process of changes symbolized by the PNDC.

That same small helicopter is a work tool for Rawlings, who constantly travels to the country's interior to meet with peasants and workers.

I had proof of this new dynamic activity only hours after arriving at the airport. It was already in the afternoon when Information Secretary Joyce Aryee invited me to Osu Castle.

The following day, in a car driven personally by Finance and Economic Planning Secretary Kwesi Botchway, I witnessed a brilliant and colorful ceremony in the country's eastern region to launch a program for the recovery of cacao plantations.

When Rawlings arrived in his small helicopter, the crowd was thrilled. Shortly thereafter, we saw him in a talk, in a real dialogue with the people, in the local "tchui" dialect. With simple and direct logic, the young PNDC chairman argued the need to work and strive for the country's economic recovery and defend the measures adopted by the PNDC.

Rawlings is a speaker who knows how to incite his listeners. He frequently interrupts his speech with the expression "Anhaa," which becomes both a question and an assertion. The crowd shows its approval with applause or by whispering admiration and respect.

Shortly thereafter, we found him in his office at Osu Castle, an old colonial-style building located in the southern part of the city.

There, in a solemn office, we talked at length about Ghana's domestic affairs and the international situation. Rawlings evaluates each question and summarizes his opinions in brief and precise answers.

Stronger Than Ever

PRISMA: Could you give us a picture of the situation in this country following the latest failed coup d'etat?

Jerry Rawlings: The panorama consists of two aspects.

First of all, there was a spontaneous, immediate and highly encouraging reaction from the people, who showed that they no longer will tolerate any attempt to take away the power they now have. The PDC barricaded roads and some of the fugitives that were fleeing in the wake of the failed coup d'etat were captured, thanks to the initiative of such committees. The revolutionary process has emerged from this experience stronger than ever.

Secondly, over the brief period that the dissidents had control of the broadcasting center (Broadcasting House), they rendered us a service by exposing the enemies of the revolution. During 1 or 2 hours, they believed that the PNDC government had been overthrown and exposed themselves. The people now know whom they have to face and what the price for failure shall be.

PRISMA: In your opinion, what were the principal forces that tried to manipulate those armed forces elements?

J.R.: Prior to independence, the privileged elite consisted of those who worked for the colonial power and with it in administration, commerce and justice. After independence, a new privileged group emerged: the politicians. Some of these came from the old dominant class that continued to strive to keep the country operating within the same socioeconomic framework, which permitted them to serve the interests of exploitative foreign firms and to continue to benefit themselves at the expense of the oppressed.

It is this group that is becoming increasingly more desperate to stop the process for it is seeing how its privileges are destroyed systematically by the revolution. Since in many cases their interests are closely linked to the economic and political system of the West, they receive encouragement from that area. Since they have access to material rewards, they try to use as a tool any element over which they can exert influence, by they students, soldiers or professionals.

PRISMA: What is the PNDC doing to bring in the people within the structural organization of the People's Government?

J.R.: Our first action after 31 December 1981 was to call on the people to form defense committees in their communities and workplaces. These committees have now evolved and reached a national structure through which the people are assuming the day-to-day affairs with increasingly greater responsibility. Greater possibilities exist for direct communication between the higher echelons of government and the rank-and-file. The next phase, that of congresses at the district, regional and national levels, is now beginning.

Principal Objectives

PRISMA: What are the principal objectives of the PNDC for the near future, especially in the social and political sector?

Rawlings: The immediate task is mobilization. Our past history left us a legacy of inertia, passive acceptance and lack of initiative. There must be an end to these by means of raising awareness and creating confidence and determination. This is happening in the PNDC, as the people gain experience in government and responsibility, which has been strengthened by the threats of dissidents. Our immediate interest is a program of education and mobilization so as to guide the growing confidence of the people in themselves.

PRISMA: In the face of the continued campaigns of destabilization and aggression against Ghana, do you believe it is necessary to organize a people's militia in this country?

Rawlings: The demand for a people's militia has been growing constantly, and has become even more insistent following the events of 19 July [as published]. Some groups of militiamen have received training, especially in the border areas, but we are now starting a more intense program. The people are willing to defend the revolution. That is why they must be offered the means and ways to carry it out responsibly and efficiently.

PRISMA: Regarding foreign policy, how would you define your position concerning neighboring countries?

Rawlings: We have the friendliest feelings toward the peoples of neighboring countries. In fact, the borders separate tribes and families of the same origin. We, however, are concerned and disheartened that the governments of some of those countries seem to allow the use of their territories as a base of activities, covert and overt, against the PNDC government.

PRISMA: How do you assess the role of the Nonaligned Countries Movement in the current world situation?

Rawlings: Ghana, as a founding member of the Nonaligned Countries Movement, is ardently in favor of Third World countries following their own path toward a better future, while also uniting for mutual support whenever necessary. This is more important than ever now that there seems to be a greater division between the policies of the East and West.

PRISMA: What do you believe are the fundamental tasks of the OAU after the last summit held in Addis Ababa?

Rawlings: In Africa there has also been polarization of political positions, which partly reflects the world situation. This disunity almost led to collapse of the OAU, and although settlements permitted that the summit be held, it is still being exploited by forces outside Africa for the purpose of undermining our common front. Therefore, our most urgent task is to strengthen this front.

PRISMA: Do you believe it is possible and viable to improve relations between Ghana and Cuba?

Rawlings: Ghana has much to learn from Cuba. There are many similarities in our past histories of colonialism, exploitation and oppression, and blood ties exist between our peoples. Therefore, the experience of the Cuban people in their struggle for social justice and their magnificent achievements in building a nation that offers a decent life for everyone are, in many aspects, quite appropriate for the current Ghanaian revolution.

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR PRUNING OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3, 5, 6, 10 Dec 83

[Editorial: "Face-Lift Concord"]

[3 Dec 83 p 2]

[Text] At the close of the second year of the revolution, the leadership should be taking a stiff look at the question of the standard of discipline required to advance the process from this stage onwards. Judging by the various measures of self-correction taken in the last year, the PNDC has given a clear indication of the especially high level of discipline expected particularly of two categories of those who take responsibility for developing and sustaining the human-factor pulse of the revolution.

One category are the revolutionary organs which have responsibility for mobilizing the people at the grassroots levels. They include the PDC/WDC and the Regional and District Co-ordination offices of the NDC, the various task force groups, and so forth. These organs are in direct touch with the people at the grassroots and their task is to expand the popular, mass base of the revolution. Their actions and methods for accomplishing this task therefore demand a combination of personal and official conduct that would endeavour the revolutionary process to the people. How they should go about this is by now not a difficult lesson because more than enough examples of the kind of proper attitude and approach expected in dealing with the people have been established for them to follow.

Those among these mobilizing organs who have not learnt these examples must go. There are others who are potentially equal to the task to replace them. There must be no compromise in getting rid of those who cannot do the job efficiently or faithfully, because inability to make self-correction at the appropriate time is the road to self-destruction.

Responsibility

The other category are those in leading positions of the revolutionary leadership--those who immediately surround the PNDC and are charged with the responsibility of translating into direct action the guiding principles of the revolution. They are the category whose mistakes and defaults pose

the danger of covering the leadership in a ring that could give false feedbacks to the PNDC and consequently make the revolutionary leadership awry. They include Secretaries, their deputies, heads and members of such vital Government organs as the CVC, NIC, Regional Allocation (commodities) Committees, and so on. They have the challenging duty of reflecting through their performances the legal, moral and social correctness of the revolutionary path which the nation has chosen.

They have the duty of supporting the growth of the new revolutionary structures being laid, and the unshirkable responsibility of unequivocally defending these structures at all costs. For anyone who genuinely believes in the rightness of the revolution and are loyal to its cause and upon that basis of trust has accepted such leading positions for its advancement must uphold these structures no matter what mistakes are committed in the process of their maturation.

However, many analysts have cause to believe that some of the people in such leading positions have no faith in the revolution and have accepted their positions for opportunistic aims. These are the people who are seen by observers to be covering up their lack of true commitment to the process by behaving as if because they occupy official government positions they are more revolutionary or greater nationalists than anyone who is not occupying such positions. Consequently, they are seen to be doing a lot of selfish and uncommendable things under the security of their office. They thereby create the wrong public image for the revolution.

Since their actions directly tend to discredit the leadership, there can be no compromise in replacing them. That is to say that if the revolution must be given the new face-lift that it so clearly needs to bring concord into the process, there is an urgency in pruning it of such elements.

[5 Dec 83 p 2]

[Text]

THE measures that are necessary for giving the revolution a face-lift; for its third milestone includes putting a halt to the old-system type of behaviour in which officials did things wrong but resisted or kept quiet over all criticism, expecting that with time the critics would be fed up and let matter lie. By this trick, many people in positions of responsibility were able to get away with bad decisions which sent government funds down the drain; they were also thereby able to indulge in corrupt deals for long periods to make money for themselves. This way of doing government business or doing things in the name of the government cannot be allowed in the revolutionary process. They constitute waste and thus take the process nowhere. When such things affect vital government policy decisions and are perpetrated by people in leading positions in the revolutionary process, they irritate the committed and faithful revolutionaries and discourage them; they also

provide the enemies with the means of discrediting the revolution in the eyes of the ordinary people by quietly telling them, "Your revolutionary leaders are doing the SAME THINGS."

The PNDC did not put anyone in a responsible position to do the 'same things' again; it put every office holder there to help to make the revolution put a stop to the bad old things and chart a course for doing things in a new, honest, and positive fashion.

We present two examples of the type of old-system bad things that must not be accepted in the revolution. Recently, a quantity of pig feet arrived in the country, imported with foreign currency. Many drums of the meat were discovered rotten. A number of questions arise. Did the pig feet arrive already rotten? If it is so, did those concerned inform the government so that the supplier can be asked to make the necessary refund? If the meat got rotten out of being kept for too long after its arrival while the Community Shops were in need of meat for distribution to the various communities, then it is a criminal act.

Those officials who do such cruel things are aware that the nation cannot afford foot-dragging on the distribution of commodities only to get scarce goods going bad — like the pig feet and melted sugar. Those responsible for such unforgivable errors have no right, for whatever reasons, to expect PNDC protection against answering for it appropriately.

Another example of the old-system way of doing things under the cover of office which cannot be allowed is the manner in which officials of the Ministry of Works and Housing have been going about the distribution of asbestos roofing sheets and trying to use their positions not only to avoid rendering an account for how they have been distributing them, but also behaving as if they expect that if they persist in carrying on as they are doing, everyone would be fed up and allow them to continue.

Just last week, it was announced, in the name of the government, that a committee had decided that the Ministry should distribute 70 per cent of the asbestos sheets that are in stock to public projects, and that the factory itself, a private concern, should distribute 30 per cent to its customers — that is, those whose deposits the factory has used in producing the sheets. But two days or so later, someone decided that the Ministry is collecting all the sheets — 24,000 — from the factory to be kept where, no one knows, for distribution.

The 'Ghananian Times' took the responsibility of drawing attention to the unsatisfactory manner in which the Ministry has gone about the distribution. First, we revealed that it distributed a large part of the sheets last year to private sources instead of public projects. Second, we asked the Ministry to give an account of the public projects

It gave the sheets to and to prove that the sheets truly went to those projects. In response the Ministry's officials rather called the management of the factory to threaten them for talking to the press. When in their stampede to pounce on the sheets (Merry X'mas), they openly threatened the management even with detention, the officials, failed to watch those who were standing by — they included pressmen. We and other people see what they are doing; it is not the management that is talking to the press.

The 24,000 sheets which the officials are collecting cost more than C8 million. The Ministry must present to the public how the sheets are to be paid for and distributed, where they are being stored, and where every single sheet goes. They must account for how they distributed the sheets they collected last year and earlier this year. They must account for why they have failed to collect the asbestos pipes produced specifically for the Ministry for public projects and why they are interested in the sheets alone.

In the old days officials could use their authority and the name of the government to do such things and get away with it. Now they cannot be allowed to do it. Too many people are seeing this asbestos sheets matter and are expressing disgust at it. It is not creditable to the revolution.

[6 Dec 83 p 2]

[Text]

WHY are the PDCs in the villages and towns in the countryside generally performing more creditably than those in the cities and urban centres? In the answers to this question, one may find a key to why the PNDC seems to have been unforgiving of the shortcomings displayed by some PDC/WDC co-ordination organs, significantly in the cities and urban centres in particular. The village and town PDCs have performed generally better because the villages and towns are small communities where the backgrounds of those elected into PDC office are well known by all the people. So it was not easy for people of bad character and dubious activities to get elected as PDC officers. Therefore the village and town PDCs were not infiltrated easily by bad people.

On the other hand, many PDCs and WDCs in the cities and urban centres were infiltrated by bad characters because the cities and urban centres are communities of people from different places, with the result that residents did not really know some of the people they were putting into PDC office. Thus there are many PDC/WDC office holders in these places, in Accra, for instance, who are self-seekers and 'incorrect'. And since district and area co-ordinators were appointed from the PDC officers, some of them are naturally 'incorrect' and opportunists.

The problem has been compounded by the fact that those put in charge — at various levels, national, regional, district — of developing the political awareness of the PDCs/WDCs and generally raising their revolutionary consciousness have failed to make the necessary impact. Consequently some PDC/WDC office holders, especially those at the co-ordination levels, have failed to grasp what is expected of them, particularly in appreciating and actualizing the human-factor principle of the revolution.

All these have led to the sad fact that even after two years there are many elements in the PDC system who have not grown, and have shown no capacity to grow, out of their mistakes. It is distressing to know, for example, that the accounts of many PDC/WDC executives in the cities and urban centres cannot stand the light of day.

CONFIDENCE

And because they have the wrong understanding of the fundamental role they should play as mirrors of the revolution to develop the confidence of the people in the process, many PDC/WDC office holders, the district and area co-ordinators especially, still behave as law unto themselves, grown big in their shoes, and resent any attempt to correct them. Some of them have become a serious nuisance to the people. We of the 'Ghanalan Times' have had no doubts at all about the role of the press to assist the PDC system to grow. In trying to play this role, we have seen enough to understand why the PNDC has found it necessary to deal firmly with those PDC officers and co-ordinators who default in fulfilling their revolutionary tasks.

In a bid to avoid the embarrassment of having to expose the shortcomings of the PDCs too soon, we have tried on occasion to call some PDC officers to discuss with them matters in which they were obviously being misled by complainants who only sought to take advantage of the PDC to get their support for wrong actions and causes. But we have been surprised to find that such officers rather resent or fear any intercourse with the press, either because they feel like new tin-gods who are above advice, or because their actions cannot stand publicity. Some of them are bent on doing the wrong thing and do not want to be shown the right way.

To succeed in giving a face-lift to the revolution, such officers — particularly the area and district co-ordinators who cannot do the correct things to sustain the human-factor line of process — must be removed so that the people can have a fresh opportunity to elect replacements whose backgrounds are well known, or to maintain in continued office those who have performed according to expectation.

If many PDC/WDC officers are doing well, there is no reason why the PNDC should allow those who are not doing well to continue to perform badly.

[Text]

THE PDCs/WDCs have a major part to play in giving a face-lift to the revolution for its third year. The part they must play is in two main respects. One is the necessity for all PDC/WDC office holders to appraise their performance so far in the light of their position as the organs for building up the mass-base of the revolution and as mirrors of its credibility. The other respect is the responsibility of the revolutionary leadership to take firm measures to ensure that the conduct of all PDC/WDC office holders has the positive effect of winning people over to the process instead of the negative effect of driving people away from it.

For the leadership, the measures that must be taken in putting WDC performance in line with the face-lift process must give very close consideration to whether after two years any WDC has any good reason to be still lingering at the bottom rung of the growing-out-of-mistakes ladder, especially where such lingering is obviously a deliberate means of bending the WDC facilities for wrong causes, and since many WDCs are doing comparatively well.

Reluctantly, we must give at least one example of the kind of WDC performance that must be discouraged, because we see in this example many developments which cannot be accepted if the WDCs are to develop into the bastion of the revolutionary process:

[In an editorial] comment recently, we drew attention to a certain occurrence at the State Housing Corporation (SHC) head office in Accra in which the Ministry of Housing was said to have given a directive to the corporation which we felt was wrong. We did not have any reaction from the Ministry to our view in its own defence. Strangely, however, we received a reply from the corporation's WDC in defence of the Ministry's action. "We told the SHC WDC that although we did not understand why they should take it upon themselves to defend a wrong action, we would publish their reply, but that they should be prepared to take responsibility for whatever revelation we would publish in our response to their reply. We gave the WDC a few hints of the revelations we had in mind which seemed to implicate them in an alleged deal related to the Ministry's directive to the SHC management to sell the corporation's building material to a private company.

We thereupon gave the SHC WDC a choice: either not to publish their reply, in the interest of their growing-out-of-mistakes process, or to publish it, for them to face our revelations that

would follow. We were told by the WDC's emissary to suspend the publication. Later, the WDC chairman and his secretary came to us with a request to discuss the matter — which meant that they were no more anxious to have their reply published, for fear of our intended revelations!

Perhaps the SHC WDC chairman and his secretary have nothing to hide. But their behaviour appeared to confirm reports that they have been using the authority of the WDC to get some firm people in the management removed. To achieve their aims, these WDC officers have tried to prevent the rank and file of the workers from coming into a confrontation with them over their actions — that is, these officers have tried to usurp the power of the workers instead of involving the workers in the performance of the WDC. For example, an NDC representative was to hold a confrontation meeting between the workers and the WDC at which some workers would have criticized some of the WDC officers, but our reporter went to cover the meeting only to be persuaded by some WDC executive members to go back, with the explanation that the situation was being resolved quietly and amicably. WDC officers afraid to face workers?

This kind of thing is being done by some WDC executives in many organizations, to the annoyance of their other faithful WDC colleagues. Some of them have been and are being used by senior officials to gain their selfish aims. As some WDC officers lend themselves to such abuses of their office, production is held at a standstill. This cannot be accepted. We urge the NDC to put its foot down now and let the influence of the good WDC officers prevail against the bad ones, so that this important revolutionary institution — the PDC system — can grow. It is crucial.

CSO: 3400/409

ACTION CALLED FOR ON BORDER DEMARCATON ISSUE

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 29 Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial: "These Border Land Disputes"]

[Text] ONLY last September the Government of Ghana expressed grave concern over conflicts on the Ghana-Togo border.

This concern shown was the result of reported steady escalation of attacks on Ghanaian residents living along the border by their counterparts on the Togo side.

Last Monday, some residents of Kpoeta near Kpedze were attacked by villagers of Hanyigba-Todzi in the Republic of Togo (see story on back page). Certainly this one incident which we are publishing underlines the seriousness of the on-going conflicts.

Many are those who may be wondering as to what the causes of the conflicts are. And many more may be those who are puzzled by the fact that opposite border residents with similar ethnic and customary backgrounds should be tearing at each other's throat. However, the issue of land dispute which is the main cause of the border conflicts is one that can cause a lot of unrest among even brothers of the same parentage and this is why we of this paper think that action on the border demarcation between the two countries must be stepped up to bring peace to the area.

The Ghana Government has over the years shown a lot of willingness towards the solution of the problem. Togo on the other hand has been stalling on the issue.

Indeed, a Ghana-Togo Border Joint Demarcation Commission set up in July 1974 to see to the physical demarcation of the border could not do any useful work for the reason we have assigned. But this impasse must be broken if peace should prevail on the border.

At the moment in the Ghana Government has already in place a Ghana side of Joint Border Demarcation Commission whose sub-committees are busily working on various aspects on the demarcation issue. But as the saying goes, it takes two to pick a quarrel and we wish to add that it also takes two to reach a

conciliation over such a quarrel. For this reason the present effort being made by Ghana on the demarcation issue cannot achieve the desired result if Togo does not set up a body to co-operate with the Ghanaian Commission on the issue.

The "People's Daily Graphic" believes that Togo like Ghana needs all the peace it can muster to carry on with development projects. Border conflicts tend to distract from this objective especially so when such disputes are unending and escalating.

In the name of good neighbourliness, fraternity and above all progress for the West African sub-region, we implore the government of Togo to expedite action on the demarcation issue and extend a hand of friendship for the solution of the problem. We are brothers and nobody can dispute that but we need to live in peace and that is the most important thing.

CSO: 3400/391

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS TO BE HELD NEXT YEAR

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] Local Government elections will be held throughout the country next year to enable village, town, area district and regional councils to be reconstituted through popular franchise.

Flt-Lt Jerry John Rawlings, PNDC Chairman, who announced this yesterday, said this called for hard work from officers in the Defence Committees and the National Commission for Democracy.

Delivering the keynote address at the opening of the fifth annual delegates conference of the National Association of Local Councils of GIMPA Achimota, he announced that the new Local Government Law will soon be promulgated and all levels of administration under the law would be required to operate effectively within the provision of the law.

Flt Lt Rawlings said all these measures were aimed at restructuring the country's administration in order to reconstruct and develop the whole country, making the best use of available resources.

He emphasized that since the resources available were limited, it was very important that delegates took the method of preparing the 1984 composite budget very seriously, "for, the Government will not allow these resources to be dissipated through the building of individual departmental empires which bring about unco-ordinated programmes."

The chairman for the occasion, Colonel (Mrs) Christine Debrah (rtd), observed that councils were a pivot upon which the central government was seated.

She, therefore, tasked the councils to initiate programmes in consultation with the people which would see a Ghana without problems.

CSO: 3400/408

DECENTRALIZATION, MOBILIZATION PROGRAMS MEET OPPOSITION

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Douglas Akwasi Osusu, Achimote]

[Text] The Chairman of the PNDC, Flt-Lt Jerry John Rawlings, yesterday spoke of the Government's determination to ensure the success of the decentralization and mobilization programmes and warned against the foot-dragging by some people, particularly top public servants who, through subtle forms of opposition to the programme, were bent on killing it.

An analysis of their reasons for the opposition reveal two factors: from one quarter, this opposition is based on ignorance; with some public servants, it is the fear of losing the comforts of their air-conditioned offices to go to the rural areas to live and plan with the very people whose labour generates the foreign exchange that gave them those comforts.

Remarking that any change inevitably caused some problems of adjustment, the PNDC Chairman pointed out that this was a necessary change and everything possible would be done to make it as smooth as possible.

He reminded the conference participants of the heavy task ahead of them as district administrators in the regions.

He asked the local councils in particular to wake up from their deep slumber and work hard, for he warned, "the Government will not countenance any lapses and inefficiency in the implementation of the mobilization and decentralization programmes.

"If any lapses in our forward march are traced to any of you, he or she will be held personally responsible," he further warned.

Flt-Lt Rawlings said the Government was fully aware of the difficulties facing both the District Secretaries and revolutionary cadres in the districts and assured them that these problems were being taken care of within the constraints of the national economy.

He appealed to everyone committed to the cause of the Revolution to cooperate emphasizing that the objectives of the people could not be achieved without hard work and crucial sacrifices by the people.

STUDENT GROUPS TRY TO BRIDGE NUGS LEADERSHIP GAP

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial: "NUGS--Asleep or Awake?"]

[Text] FOR some months, small groups of students in different parts of the country have been discussing and debating the question of our universities-- how they can be reopened without the same errors and conflicts being repeated and how the educational system can be reshaped to make it more relevant to the nation's needs.

These groups are a minority. The majority of students have passively waited for an announcement about the reopening, have grumbled when it didn't come, and some of them who have the means to do so have left the country to study elsewhere.

The NUGS [National Union of Ghanaian Students], which prides itself upon being democratically elected to represent the students, has meanwhile been silent and has offered no leadership, stimulated no debate, and made no positive suggestions towards the solution of educational problems.

It is because of this inactivity on the part of the NUGS that one of the groups, the Medina Students Union, decided to try and awaken students from their apathy and involve them in constructive discussion. They therefore initiated a series of meetings, beginning in mid-October, at the Accra Community Centre, to which they invited all interested students including NUGS officials. In their own words, those who have been meeting are simply "a cross-section of University students residing in the Accra-Tema Metropolitan Area".

This group, and those who have joined in the discussions, have succeeded in stimulating useful examination of the problems which must be solved in order that the Universities may fulfil their role in Ghana's development.

They have also succeeded in awakening the NUGS executive from its torpor.

But it seems that NUGS has not awoken in order to lead its members in positive and constructive steps towards the reopening of the Universities. Instead, it has awoken with shrill cries of outrage that any group of students should express any opinion about student affairs, and thus usurp its "democratic" right to be the only voice of the students.

The first angry response came on 10th November in the form of a press statement signed by the General Secretary of something called "Student Solidarity". What exactly this body consists of is not known, but it would appear to have been concocted to express official hardline NUGS views to fill the gap until the NUGS executive could get a more official statement organised. Otherwise, why has Student Solidarity not been castigated by NUGS for speaking for students, instead of allowing their democratically elected leaders to do so? Or is it permissible for student groups who echo the NUGS line to speak, but wrong for those who disagree?

By 15th November, an official NUGS statement appeared, full of self-righteous talk about, "performing our role as the moral conscience of our society", and still clinging to the fantasy that the PNDC Government ordered the closure of the Universities, and that all that is needed is a wave of the magic wand and an order to reopen.

This was followed on 16th November by a supporting statement by some Kumasi-based students, lashing out at the Medina Students Union as "infantile minded and evil", and yet saying that the fact that the Medina group have expressed their opinions proves how democratic NUGS is! We hope that this curious logic is the result of over-excitement and not of serious thought.

If nothing else, the awakening of NUGS opens the possibilities of reasonable debate, if only all concerned will examine the issues calmly and honestly, avoid hallucinations such as seeing meeting places "cordoned off by militiamen", and concede that those who have stirred up the debate, in their own press statement, "would be too glad to work together with them (NUGS) or even hand over to them", if only NUGS produces a constructive and realistic programme of leadership.

CSO: 3400/391

RAWLINGS CRITICIZES POLICE BRUTALITY

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 8 Dec 83 pp 1, 5

[Article by Nelson Duah]

[Text]

THE RECONSTITUTED POLICE SERVICE COUNCIL SHOULD ENSURE THAT CASES OF UNNECESSARY BRUTALITY OF SUSPECTS AND OFFENDERS, FREQUENT CASES OF POLICEMEN DEMANDING BRIBES AT ROAD BARRIERS AND COLLECTING FOOD-STUFFS FROM PASSING VEHICLES CEASE FORTHWITH.

And to avoid public resentment, the Police must also endeavour to be fair, impartial, courteous and reasonable at all times in the discharge of their duties.

Flt-Lt J. J. Rawlings, Chairman of the PNDC, made these observations when he inaugurated the seven-member Police Service Council at the Castle Osu, yesterday.

The council has Mr Justice D. F. Annan, retired Appeal Court Judge as chairman. Other members are Mr Kofi Djin, Secretary for the Interior, and Mr G. E. K. Aikins, Secretary for Justice and Attorney-General.

The rest are Mr R. K. Kugblenu, Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Mr Steve Ocansey, member of the National Defence Committee (NDC), Mr E. K. Addai-Marfo, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) and Chief Inspector Samuel Yaro, both of the

Police Defence Committee

The reconstituted Police Council under PNDC Law 12 as amended, is charged among other things with the responsibility of advising the PNDC, the Secretary for the Interior and the Inspector-General of Police on all matters of policy relating to the Police Service, including matters concerning the welfare and discipline within the Police Service and the selection and training of its members.

Chairman Rawlings said policemen should be seen to know the laws which they are meant to enforce and that their personal discipline, smartness and comportment should command respect.

Flt-Lt Rawlings noted that if significant progress is to be made towards reducing citizen hostility, the Police should refine all aspects of their operations and desist from activities which incur public hostility and lack of co-operation.

"We should not overlook certain unpatriotic and disgraceful acts carried out by some policemen which tend to tarnish the image of the police", Chairman Rawlings emphasised.

Flt-Lt Rawlings observed that the majority of

policemen condemn such acts and some have gone to the extent of playing a part in exposing their guilty colleagues and called for support for such patriotic policemen from the Police Service Council if they are to maintain the moral courage needed to give the service the new standards which Ghanaians hope for.

Chairman Rawlings stated that the strength of the Police Service at the moment is in the region of about 17,000 for a population of over 13 million and it is obvious that there is the need for an increase but this could not be readily achieved because of problems such as accommodation, transportation materials and equipment.

He said the PNDC is aware of these problems and is doing its best within the economic restraints of the country to make some improvements.

Replying, Mr Justice Annan thanked the PNDC for their appointment and gave the assurance that members of the council would work towards giving the Ghana Police Service a new image to enable it to command respect from the public.

CSO: 3400/410

GRAPHIC PROTESTS EXPULSION OF CHARGE D'AFFAIRES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Why Pick On Us, Sir?"]

[Text] THE Liberian Head of State Commander-in-Chief Dr Samuel Doe announced the expulsion of the Soviet Ambassador and Ghana's Charge d'Affaires last Tuesday. The two envoys were given forty-eight hours to leave the country. Dr Doe implied by this action that the USSR and Ghana were behind an alleged plot to overthrow his government.

The news took the people and Government of Ghana by surprise. An official statement last Wednesday said that the simultaneous expulsion of the two diplomats was a crude and ridiculous attempt to associate Ghana with the USSR in a blatantly false conspiracy to destabilise an African country and to involve Ghana in super power rivalries. The statement noted that the explanation for the expulsion of the Ghanaian envoy is a continuation of a vicious campaign against the revolutionary process. It described the allegations as 'childish and absurd' and regretted that "Dr Doe has allowed himself to be manipulated in such a manner as may affect the very cordial relations that exist between the two countries".

The "GRAPHIC" does not intend to start a propaganda war with the Liberian Head of State, but there appears to be a clear meaning in Liberia's action. 'Afrique-Asie magazine', No. 297 of June 6, 1983 in an article headed "Ghana Faces the Threat of An Attack" published a "strictly confidential" letter addressed to Samuel Doe by General Joshua Hamidu.

The letter requested aid and equipment to overthrow the Ghana Government. General Hamidu, among other things, asked for "training grounds for a period of two weeks" and "funds to feed our officers and men and to provide them with transport by air and by land".

The 'Crescent' (an international mouthpiece of the Islamic movement), Volume 12, No. 13 of September 16-30, 1983, and published from Ontario Canada wrote that "... The President of Liberia who recently visited Israel, met leaders of Ghana's opposition groups to plan the overthrow of Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, Ghana's military ruler".

This paper knows of many publications which state the intentions of the Liberian Head of State towards our revolutionary process but we have not published them for two reasons. First we distinguish between Dr General Samuel Doe and the ORDINARY PEOPLE of Liberia. And we believe that they want to be friends with us. And we value and respect their friendship.

Secondly, we know that our revolutionary process threatens those institutions and countries whose systems are based on the exploitation of the common man. And we can understand, scientifically, why they will want to destroy us.

But at this very moment, the attention of Ghana and her friends is turned to Paris, to the DONORS CONFERENCE, and to the impending power cuts. We have enough problems here of our own. The rains were bad and our harvest was not as it should be. We are faced with seemingly unsurmountable problems.

Is it a mere co-incidence that the Liberian Head of State's action should happen now? Is it meant to annoy the USA and Western Europe so that they walk out of the conference? Would that help solve the problems of the ordinary Liberian?

This paper will like to appeal to all who have any influence in Monrovia's Executive Mansion to urge the Liberian leader to leave Ghana alone.

The action of Dr Samuel Doe is a provocative act. But don't we have a saying here that "if you are bathing and a mad man takes your cloth, you should not go chasing after him for the cloth, because then you also become like him?"

We urge the Government to heed the wisdom of this saying and to be restrained in its reaction to the latest act from the Commander-in-Chief, Dr Samuel Doe.

CSO: 3400/391

SCIA DRAGS CHIEF IMAM, MUSLIM ORGANIZATIONS TO COURT

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 25 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Awudi Ali]

[Text] The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs has filed a writ at an Accra High Court seeking to restrain Imam Muhktari Abbass, Chief Imam, and five Muslim organizations from interfering with the constitution of the Ghana Muslim Representative Council (GMRC).

The organizations are the National Council of Imams and Ulema, the Reconstitution Committee, Ghana Muslim Community, Ansarudeen Islamiyat Islamic Research Council of Muslim Chiefs and Islamic Educational Trust.

Also included among the defendants is the GMRC Consultative Committee headed by Dr Francis Botchway.

Representatives of the organizations named in the suit were Ostez Ali Alhassan, Chief Inspector Gedo, Alhaji Abdul Malik, Alhaji Mustapha Yahaya, Alhaji Umar Arimiyyau, Alhaji S.S. Shardow and Alhaji Glover.

The writ, jointly filed by Alhaji Issah Akuffo, executive member of the Supreme Council and Alhaji Abdulrahman Issaka of the Ghana Muslim Congress, claimed that the organizations were not constituent member-bodies of the GMRC.

For that reason, it said their representatives had no right to organize a congress for the purpose of restructuring the composition of the GMRC or to amend its constitution.

The Plaintiffs are also praying the court to declare that the consultative committee of the GMRC is not known to the constitution of GMRC and that its report is invalid.

In their statement of claim, the plaintiffs contended that Imam Abbas, in consultation with the other defendants, unlawfully summoned meetings to organize a congress of Imams without the authority of the BMRC.

The purpose of the congress, the statement said, was to adopt a new constitution drawn by the GMRC consultative committee headed by Dr Botchway.

Hearing has been fixed for December 14.

WESTERN REGION MUSLIM YOUTH BLAME ABBAS FOR CLASH

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 23 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] The Western Region Muslim Youth Movement has accused the National Chief Imam, Alhaji Muctari Abbas of being responsible for the bloody clash between alien Muslims and their Ghanaian counterparts at the Takoradi Central Mosque last week.

At a meeting last weekend to deliberate over the disturbance, the Muslim Youth said the clash followed a letter allegedly written by Alhaji Abbas, authorizing alien Muslims to instal an Imam.

They said this contravened his own ruling on April 27 this year, when he arbitrated on the issue at a meeting attended by both factions at the Western Regional Administration.

The youth, therefore, asked Imam Abbas to withdraw the letter immediately and to stick to his ruling which was accepted by both parties.

It also called for immediate release of all those placed in police custody following the clash to facilitate amicable settlement.

Briefing newsmen on the issue after the meeting, a spokesman for the movement said soon after the death of the substantive Imam, Alhaji Bawa, all the Muslims met and agreed that his deputy Alhaji Sulle Baba Sua, a Hausa, should be appointed to fill the vacancy while a qualified Ghanaian Muslim was appointed as his deputy.

He said some weeks later the alien Muslims objected to a Ghanaian being appointed deputy Imam.

The youth said the Regional Council of ULEMAU (elders) responsible for settling the misunderstanding sat on the case and came to a conclusion that an alien be made Imam and a Ghanaian appointed deputy Imam, but this was also rejected by the aliens.

They said Alhaji Abbas who came into the picture ruled that the deputy Imam should succeed the late Baws with a Ghanaian as his deputy--GNA

CSO: 3400/408

CRITICISM OF PEOPLE'S SHOPS SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Editorial: Anti-Shop Lobby"]

[Text] There is increasing talk of attempts to sabotage the People's Shops. This allegation is now coming not from PDC/WDC sources alone but from other people who, even though they are not happy about the operations of the shops to date, have no doubt that they hold the key to an efficient and fair distribution system for the future. The allegation should be seriously taken up the office of the National Co-ordinator of People's Shops without delay. It should be stressed that the community shop system of distribution is one of the major social justice concepts of the revolution and at whatever cost the system is going to be made to work effectively.

It is true that serious deficiencies and abuses have occurred, respectively, in the planning and running of the community shops, and it is true that the revolutionary leadership has not hidden its displeasure at these shortcomings. But the opponents of the very concept of the community shops who see this criticism as a chance to press for their destruction are reckoning without reality. No matter how powerful their anti-shop lobby may be, the opponents will not succeed in killing the concept or sabotaging the system.

It must be made clear to those who stand against the community shops system that the PNDC established it to give practical expression to two basic qualities of the revolution: First, it is to correct the old-system unbalanced distribution system which gave virtually all the goods to the parasitic urban groups and deprived the rural communities the, real producers of the nation's wealth, of a fair share of commodities. So the system is in support of the social justice aims at the revolution. Second, the community shops system is in support of the social justice aims of the revolution--that democracy is real and meaningful only if it ensures the full participation of the mass of the people in decision-making, especially in the affairs which directly affect their lives. That is participatory democracy, the sharing of responsibilities and opportunities from the grassroots social levels. Every community must contribute to production and benefit equally from the products. The community shops are thus designed to ensure that goods reach the ordinary people, too, wherever they are and not the urban centres alone.

Principles

These revolutionary principles will not be abandoned, so the community shops have come to stay. The faults which the leadership has found with the shops are meant to correct their operations and not to destroy them--it is, indeed, along the principled revolutionary line of self-criticism that the leadership has not spared any effort to point out the infirmities in the manner in which the shops are being run.

Instead of seeking to use the criticisms against the community shops to discourage their growth, the opponents should be told one fact about the whole concept of self-criticism in the revolutionary process. Self-criticism in a revolution is like the ropes of a boxing ring to a good, intelligent heavyweight boxer: He repairs to the ropes and uses his guard properly. His opponent thinks he has now got his man and thereupon expends his energy hitting and hitting. But the good boxer knows that the flexibility of the ropes acts as a shock-absorber taking the sting out of his opponent's blows. So meanwhile, he recovers his breath on the ropes and in good time rebounds with renewed energy to fight harder to victory.

Thus self-criticism is the 'rope-adope' of the revolutionary process. The leadership and all the revolutionary organs, cadres, and activists lean against self-criticism to recover their energy; it is a source of strength. The enemies of the revolution, like the foolish boxer and the unknowing boxing fans, think that self-criticism is a defeatist retreat. It is not; it rather invigorates the revolutionary process. Therefore, if the community shops are making mistakes now and are being criticized, this will raise them from strength to strength. We warn those who are in league to sabotage the community shops to stop now. There is no way they are going to succeed.

CSO: 3400/409

GOVERNMENT URGED TO REACTIVATE NUCLEAR CENTER

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 12 Dec 83 p 4

[Article by Joe Bradford, Nyinah and Yunis Mensah, Kwabenya]

[Text]

THE government has been urged to reactivate the National Nuclear Research Centre at Kwabenya near Accra as the basis for Ghana's scientific and technological advancement.

The centre has machinery, equipment and plants which could be used for medical and agricultural researches, fabrication of engine blocks and other needed spare parts as well as for the preservation of cocoa, cereals and other food items.

Dr M. K. Gbordzoe, a member of the Interim Management Committee of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission made the call when he took a team of presmen round the various departments of the centre at the week-end.

He disclosed that the centre had been abandoned since the 1966 coup d'état and regretted that though there are skilled personnel to man the machines, lack of tools and other accessories has rendered them idle.

But Dr Gbordzoe was of the opinion that if the centre was reactivated and developed, it could help train local engineers.

Dr I. N. Acquah, head of the Physics Department of the centre, told the press that serious thought ought to be given to research into nuclear power to replace hydro-electric power in the country.

This, he hoped could help arrest the current power problem facing the country.

He therefore appealed to

the government to make the supply of tools and accessories to the centre a priority since a scientific and technological revolution must go alongside a political revolution if the latter is to succeed.

According to scientists at the centre, the machines have stood the test of the weather and are still in good condition.

The project which according to Dr Ghordzoe was about 90% finished now needs only the reactor with a uranium fuel as the major component for its completion.

Even without the reactor most of the machines there could be used using local cast iron as raw material.

Dr Gbordzo agreed that the Oppong Manso iron and steel industry could be a good complement to the centre in the development of technology in Ghana.

Dr E. E. K. Tachie, acting Director of the National Nuclear Research Centre, said Ghana cannot avail herself of an International Atomic Energy Agency aid for a pilot plant for the preservation of cocoa, cocoa butter and other cereals because the country cannot provide the infrastructure to house the pilot plant.

The plant which will use radiation of radio-active metals to preserve food-stuffs can end the destruction of tons of cereals and other foodstuffs by pests and through the lack of storage facilities.

At the centre's test la-

boration, according to Dr Tachie, are samples of maize treated by radiation in 1980 and which still look as fresh as they were three years back.

He said that though the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning had been informed of the grant and its requirement, the centre's requests are always answered with "no funds".

Dr Tachie disclosed that most countries are interested in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and are prepared to help Ghana develop the centre if funds will be made available for it.

He disclosed that though the centre was to supervise the X-ray departments in all hospitals in the country to prevent excess exposure to radioactive metals which he said can render people sterile and also cause cancer, the centre has not been able to do it due to lack of transportation and other technical problems.

He disclosed that since 1978 the centre has been out of telephone communication.

He therefore appealed to the government to consider the centre as the pivot of Ghana's technological advancement and give it the needed attention.

The Nuclear centre was initiated in 1962 with technical assistance from the Soviet Union.

Though the project was scheduled to be completed by June 1966 it was abandoned in February after the coup.

COCOA, COFFEE FARMERS ASSURED OF PROMPT PAYMENT

Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3 Dec 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] Mr Kwesi Ahwol, a member of the Implementation and Monitoring Committee on the Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD), says the Bank of Ghana has given firm assurance that it has issued out sufficient money to the commercial banks for 1983/84 cocoa and coffee purchases.

Cocoa farmers can, therefore, rest assured that they will not encounter undue hardships in cashing their Akuafio cheques at the banks after selling of their produce.

The Government recently increased the producer price of cocoa to ₦600 per 30 kilogrammes for the 1983/84 season.

Disclosing this at a meeting with Eastern Regional managers of commercial banks and district purchasing officers of the Produce Buying Company (PBC) at Koforidua yesterday, Mr Ahwol said the Central Bank has guaranteed that "there is enough liquidity in the system for the smooth operation of cocoa purchases this year."

Mr Ahwol referred to the 1982-1983 season and disclosed that for the first time in 10 years every cocoa and coffee farmer was paid fully for his produce bought.

This, he said, demonstrated that the Akuafio Cheque system, by which cocoa, coffee and sheanut farmers were paid through the banks had been a tremendous success.

Another success story of the cocoa industry during the past year, Mr Ahwol revealed was that every bean of cocoa purchased was evacuated from the hinterland to the ports for export.

He said this was achieved through the resources of the COCOBOD without any mass involvement as was the case in the previous year.

On transportation and communication, Mr Ahwol announced that by January next year every district bank would be provided with a vehicle.

About 64 motorolla equipment had also been ordered for installation at the district centres of the Produce Bying Company Limited.

He advised the banks to refrain from inter-bank rivalry and jealousies in the operation of the Akuafu Cheque System, pointing out that if the rivalry persisted and the farmers became frustrated, they would lose confidence in the banking system.

The National Committee on the Akuafu Cheque System, he stressed, was determined to ensure total success for the scheme.

Mr Ahwol advised the banks to move out from their traditional methods of granting loans.

"Since the PNDC is placing much emphasis on agriculture and the rehabilitation of the cocoa industry, the banks must grant substantial loans to cocoa and peasant farmers," he suggested and expressed optimism that if the banks changed their attitude the farmers would be enticed to save part of their cocoa earnings with them and thereby enhance liquidity in the system.

CSO: 3400/408

BRIEFS

AIRWAY SERVICE TO BENIN--The managing director of Ghana Airways Corporation, Group Captain Frank Okyne has observed that the fraternal cooperation between Ghana and the Republic of Benin could be substantially improved by the establishment of communication links between the two countries. He said this and other factors could form the basic foundation to increase intra-African cooperation in many fields. Group Captain Okyne was inaugurating the resumed Ghana Airways regular service between Ghana and Benin at a ceremony in Cotonou yesterday. He described the re-establishment of the Ghana-Benin service as a major step towards a full realization of the tenets of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and an infrastructure of the African regional and continental unity. The Minister of Transport and Communications of Benin, Mr Bouraima Taofiqui was happy that the deliberations at the Ghana-Benin Joint Cooperation meeting held in Accra in August this year and which include the possibility of establishing air service between Accra and Cotonou had become a reality. He said the Benin Government would reciprocate by extending Benin's air transport service to Ghana. The Benin Government would also ensure that the liaison between Ghana and Benin in communication became a success. [Excerpts] [Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 12 Dec 83 pp 1, 3]

CHINESE LANTERNS--THE Ghana National Trading Corporation (GNTC) is expecting 14,000 dozens hurricane lamp (lanterns) from China. The lanterns were imported on a bilateral agreement between the two countries two months ago and will arrive in the country before Christmas, an official of the GNTC told the 'Graphic' yesterday. This is a pleasant surprise for Ghanaians since most people were doubting how they could celebrate the Christmas holidays in darkness considering the proposed power cuts starting from December 1. Meanwhile sources close to the GNTC said the corporation has no special packet for the public. That is due to foreign exchange constraints and the corporation was not allocated import licence to import special goods for the Christmas as was the practice in the past. They said however that the Ghana National Procurement Agency (GNPA) has a substantial amount of cooking oil, rice and sugar which, if fairly distributed, could also be used to celebrate the Christmas holidays equally well. [Adwoa Van-Ess] [Text] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Nov 83 p 2]

CSO: 3400/391

LISBON PAPER CONDEMNS FRELIMO ACTIONS AGAINST RESISTANCE

Lisbon O DIABO in Portuguese 18 Oct 83 p 18

[Article by Filipe de Oliveira]

[Text] Harare, October--Three more Mozambican civilians have been sentenced to death and summarily executed. According to Mozambique National Resistance [MNR], the three in question were Antonio Lopes, Fernando Leao, and Moniz Gabriel, and their execution took place in Nigula, Mocuba, in Zambezia Province.

Despite the publication of Amnesty International's report on the death penalty in Mozambique, executions are continuing, and the authorities are still determined to use terrorizing methods on a large scale. We were told by the same source that the authorities have now started their announced "Operation Production" by forcing thousands of people to leave the cities and towns and settle in rural areas. In the rural zones, members of the FRELIMO army have been using force of arms to kidnap thousands of inhabitants from their villages and force them to assemble and remain confined in the communal villages, which are genuine concentration camps and slave camps.

This has been happening in all of Mozambique's provinces. By means of this campaign, the Machel government has been trying in vain to separate the inhabitants from the guerrilla fighters and remove the logistic and every other kind of support being given to the resistance by the people. The MNR emphasizes that as a result of those actions, the Maputo regime is succeeding only in demonstrating what it has always tried to hide: the Mozambican people firmly and resolutely support the anticomunist guerrilla fighters. But with operations of this kind, "instead of reducing opposition to their regime, Machel's followers are succeeding only in creating even greater discontent in the population, even firmer opposition to their government, and, consequently, an intensification of the guerrilla struggle."

The provinces affected most severely by FRELIMO's violence are Gaza, Sofala, Manica, and Zambezia. It is known that in Gaza Province, there are inhabitants trying to escape to Zimbabwe and to areas under guerrilla control.

In the Funguane area in Guija and in Chidulo, Maconjo, Mangonde, and Maquitse in Chibuto, FRELIMO has been poisoning wells and mining the approaches to them,

burning villages, and massacring the inhabitants. Inhabitants are being kid-naped and taken to the communal villages of Canicado, Mabalane, Madaquene, and Chicutso. The living conditions in such villages are not even minimal, and the inhabitants, even at the risk of being shot at by the government troops in control of those villages, try to escape. This is the case in Chidulo. The inhabitants of that communal village, because of the famine and drought (a simple can of water can cost as much as 75 meticals!), have been trying to cross the frontier and escape into Zimbabwe. There is also a report from Gaza that FRELIMO soldiers in the Mangondo area of Chibuto are robbing the inhabitants and raping the women. Identical actions are occurring also in Maguitse, Mahoisse, Magonde, and Pepessequase.

Seven Civilians Massacred in Sofala

Another report received from the MNR states that in Manica Province, government troops have mined the wells in Riguepe and Chipalene, localities where the inhabitants were in the habit of getting water. Also in that province, Machel's army has been mining trails used by the people in the areas of Vila Manica, Bandula, Vanduzi, Mavonde, and Sussundenga. Also in Manica, in the Chipindaume zone in Gondola, the inhabitants' houses have been burned, and the occupants are being forced to go, or be taken by force, to the communal villages.

Lastly, a case from Sofala that was reported to us: another seven members of the population--one man, three women, and three children--were massacred when FRELIMO troops opened fire on their houses in Nhandua north of Pavua.

On the other hand, developments in the military area are being reported optimistically by the MNR. According to several sources within the movement, the objectives chosen for September were achieved: it is reported that the guerrillas captured Vila de Maringue, capital of the Maringue District, in the first few days of the month. In that town alone, the guerrillas reportedly liberated over 3,000 people being confined in communal villages in that zone.

Continuing their offensive, the guerrillas temporarily occupied Vila de Namarroi in Zambezia Province and the capital of the Dombe District--the town of Dombe--in Manica Province. Chitengo, where the administrative center of Gorongosa Park is located, also fell to the resistance, with the result that the zone liberated by the resistance in the central part of the country was extended. Many inhabitants were also liberated in the northern part of the country--in Nampula Province--as the result of an attack launched by the MNR against positions occupied by government troops that were guarding a communal village in the Murrupula zone.

Operations in Gorongosa Area

The list of guerrilla operations carried out during September and mentioned by the MNR is a long one. Apparently one of the most important actions took place in Bala Vale in Gaza Province: over 40 government soldiers were killed during the action, and the local barracks was completely destroyed. A Russian-made radio transmitter, 29 Hungria-type weapons, 14 PPsh submachineguns, and a large quantity of G3's and AK47's were among the equipment captured by the antigovernment fighters.

Reports from inside Mozambique emphasize that the guerrilla fighters are making frequent use of heavy armament, notably Soviet-made anti-aircraft guns, and that the resistance has been able to seize from Maputo's troops in the course of its offensives.

Concerning a communique from General Mabote, chief of staff of the government forces, which reported "a serious defeat inflicted on the resistance" with the capture of "an important base in Gorongosa," we obtained the following explanation from informants in the resistance movement:

"It is important to state that FRELIMO is attempting to establish an area free of guerrilla activity around Vila Paiva, where it plans to establish several concentration camps in the zones of Cavallo, Mavume, and Canda to house all those being removed from the cities and their villages by force during the so-called 'Operation Production.'

"In an attempt to put those plans into effect, FRELIMO sent three battalions from the city of Beira to the zone, where they began to shell areas 7 or 8 kilometers from Vila Paiva. But the guerrillas were not in that zone; they were closer to the town, mainly in positions from where they could immediately ambush the various battalions.

"On 19 September, the battalion that was trying to move north was attacked in the area of Muctosa, with 15 soldiers being killed. Also killed in that action was the battalion commander himself, Pedro Wache, who was a major and who had just returned from taking a military course in the Soviet Union. On the following day, two infantry officers and one artillery officer deserted from that same battalion. The other two battalions were also attacked by the guerrillas on the 19th. One of them, which was moving south, halted its march after suffering heavy casualties. Battalion units attempting to advance westward were also the targets of heavy artillery fire by the resistance and later of several ambushes. They finally retreated."

11798
(NSC) 344/748

PORTUGUESE, SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRIALISTS TO INVEST

Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 29 Oct 83 pp 1, 24

[Excerpt] Manuel Bulhosa, the Portuguese petroleum industrialist, and Oppenheimer, the well-known South African industrialist, financier, and businessman, are engaged in intensive contacts with Mozambique, and the purpose certainly is to establish cooperation systems in their respective areas of interest.

EXPRESSO has learned from a reliable source that Manuel Bulhosa has been invited to visit Mozambique. His trip will be concerned with straightening out problems arising from the nationalization of SONAREP [National Petroleum Refining Company] by the authorities in Maputo. Since both sides are interested in launching profitable cooperation in solid and lasting forms, there has been an exchange of correspondence among SONAREP, Manuel Bulhosa, and Mozambican authorities, and all indications are that the outcome will be an agreement among the parties involved.

Manuel Bulhosa has also invited Aquino de Braganca, who has been serving as mediator, to go to Brazil as his guest. That invitation has also been extended to the governor of the Central Bank of Mozambique, Prakash Rathilal. If the trip takes place, there may be a meeting with President Joao Figueiredo for the purpose of studying Brazilian participation in the granting of a line of credit to Mozambique.

Meanwhile, the "Committee To Defend the Interests of SONAREP Stockholders," meeting in Basileia on 20 September, sent a statement to Samora Machel in which it said that "while nationalization of the refinery may be justified by the Mozambican Government's economic policy--a policy similar to that adopted by other countries, also in Africa--it is difficult to understand why, in the distribution, only SONAREP companies are being taken away from their stockholders."

The document also says: "SONAREP's stockholders do not deserve discriminatory treatment that is injurious to their legitimate interests because in the past, they have always made available to Mozambique and its government not only high-quality technical cooperation but also the benefit of the worldwide experience gained by one of the company's major stockholders, the French Petroleum Company, whose active cooperation could provide substantial advantages in the industry, in international ocean transportation, and in domestic trade and also make a

valuable contribution to the economic development that the People's Republic of Mozambique has been striving to achieve."

A meeting was also held between Jacinto Veloso, [Mozambican] minister to the Presidency for economy, and Manuel Bulhosa, who in that meeting expressed his availability for implementing the solution that may be agreed upon.

Sources contacted by EXPRESSO said it was possible that an agreement would be reached in the near future.

Meanwhile, Oppenheimer met with Samora Machel in London during his recent visit to Great Britain. In that instance, the role of mediator was played by Almeida Santos, and that was the reason for the Portuguese minister of state's quick visit to London.

It is public knowledge that Almeida Santos, who was once Oppenheimer's attorney, maintains excellent relations with the South African industrialist and also with the government in Mozambique.

11798
CSO: 3442/48

SOFALA GOVERNOR VISITS METALOTECNICA ENTERPRISE

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 31 Oct 83 pp 1, 3

[Text] Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos, member of the Politburo of the FRELIMO Party Central Committee and leader of Sofala Province, last Saturday visited the assembly line for Ikarus buses that is being installed as one of the big projects underway at the METALOTECNICA enterprise in the city of Beira.

The leader was informed at the site that work on the project in question is now at a quite advanced stage, the circumstances standing in the way of fulfillment of the plan as originally established having been overcome.

Work on the assembly line for Ikarus buses, one of the major projects underway at the METALOTECNICA enterprise in Beira, has now entered the final phase of construction, the circumstances hampering fulfillment of the plan as originally established having been overcome.

That information was announced on Saturday to Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos, member of the Politburo of the FRELIMO Party Central Committee and leader of Sofala Province, during his visit to the enterprise in the company of Lourenco Marra, first secretary of the City Committee, and the provincial directors of planning, industry and energy and of construction and water.

In a verbal report to the leader of Sofala Province, Manuel Mbeve, manager of METALOTECNICA, said that in general, the strategic objectives laid down for the enterprise are being achieved despite a relative delay caused by irregularity in the receipt of building materials.

Three major projects epitomize what is actually being done at the moment: installation of the plant for agricultural tools, the assembly line for Ikarus buses, and expansion of the present foundry, including the improvement of working conditions and modernization of the production process.

Manuel Mbeve said: "We are entering a crucial phase in carrying out the project for the plant that will produce agricultural tools. Several contracts covering the providing of technological equipment, building materials, and technical assistance, among other things, have been signed with the Soviet side."

When the work underway at METALOTECNICA is completed, Mozambique will be capable of manufacturing seed drills, plows, mechanical harrows, and parts for agricultural equipment. It will also be equipped to assemble buses, and all of this will represent a real contribution to the fight against underdevelopment.

The project for the future metal engineering complex, which will employ over 1,200 workers and cover a vast area, will include the construction of such social facilities as dining halls, bathing facilities, an area for relaxation, and a large park. A number of enterprises located in the zone covered by the project are going to vacate their premises, which will immediately be converted and adapted to the needs of METALOTECNICA.

To ensure the technical-vocational training of its work force, the enterprise plans to enroll some of its workers in middle and higher-level schools in the USSR, while others will attend industrial institutes in Mozambique after completing grade 9.

11798
CSO: 3442/47

HYDROGRAPHY STUDENTS WILL CONTINUE TRAINING IN PORTUGAL

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 2 Nov 83 p 3

[Article by Estacio Baptista]

[Text] Under the cooperation agreements existing between the Mozambican Ministry of Ports and Railroads [MPCFM] and the Hydrographic Institute of Portugal [INHP], a number of students who have taken the hydrography course in Beira are going to pursue advanced studies in Portugal.

This was announced by Oscar de Carvalho, national director of ocean and river transportation, at the ceremony marking the close of the 3-week course for assistant hydrographers.

In the course of that closing ceremony, which was held last week and which was attended by the provincial director of transportation, the Portuguese consul general, and other important figures, Oscar de Carvalho emphasized the nature of the cooperation existing between the MPCFM and the INHP in the fields of navigation and hydrography.

He also said that the group of 19 students participating in this course is a response to the country's needs, since the course in question had been preceded by a preparatory course in drafting and topography at the National School of Geography and Cartography in Maputo.

The subjects taught were: coastal oceanography, basic hydrographic surveying, and medium-precision topographic surveying. Also included were subjects related to radiolocation.

One of the instructors said: "Student participation was good, and there was good scholastic achievement, considering that only two failed the course."

On the same subject, he added that the pass rate of about 98 percent was due to the fact that most of the students had already worked in hydrographic brigades and in some cases had assisted in the related surveying.

To be accepted for the course, students were required to have completed at least grade 6 and to have attended the above-mentioned preparatory course.

"The Sea That Once Divided Us Will Unite Us"

Also speaking at the closing ceremony was the Portuguese consul general, who, after stressing the relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between Mozambique and Portugal, said that "the sea that once divided us is now going to unite us."

In a way, the union referred to by the Portuguese diplomat is the synthesis of President Samora Machel's recent visit to Portugal. That visit resulted in the signing of cooperation agreements in various fields.

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CSO: 3442/47

NAMAACHA AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL INCREASES PRODUCTION GOALS

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 1 Nov 83 p 3

[Article by Jose Manuel]

[Text] The Namaacha Basic Agricultural School in Maputo is bent on carrying out a vast program in animal husbandry that calls for stepping up the breeding of the small animals raised there. This is part of a project established by SETEP (State Secretariat for Technical-Vocational Education). The operation also includes carrying out and vitalizing various agricultural activities by the students and instructors with a view to improving their diet.

According to information gathered at the school by our reporters in talks with Vitorino Salvador Mazivila, an instructor in farm mechanization who is also involved in the above-mentioned work, one objective of the project is to enable the school not only to be self-sufficient in food but also to supply other educational establishments under SETEP's supervision, the Namaacha District, and Maputo Province in general.

Meanwhile, in the area of small animal breeding, the school has about 140 swine and 40 ducks as well as 20 head of cattle. It is important to emphasize that as a specific element in stepping up the breeding of those animals, the school recently received an additional 65 swine. The result, according to Mazivila, is that the technical-vocational school will be in a position to supply pork to the producing school and to the other schools under SETEP.

Vitorino Mazivila said: "To avoid being faced with the problem of a lack of feed for our animals, we are making efforts to ensure the production of every kind of feed they can consume. In this context, it is important to draw attention to the massive participation by students and instructors in the spirit, which they all have, that we are combating our chief enemy: hunger."

He continued: "We have good prospects for completely achieving our plans in the field of livestock breeding, although certain species--such as chickens and turkeys--are no longer here because of the various difficulties we have experienced. On the other hand, we also have hopes of introducing new species very soon as part of the livestock breeding project. Those initiatives can guarantee the success of the operation."

Over 10 Tons of Corn Produced

Parallel with implementation of the livestock breeding project, and as we mentioned above, every effort is being made at the Namaacha Basic Agricultural School to improve farm production on the approximately 28 hectares owned by the school.

For example, over 10 tons of corn were produced this year, and in addition to its use as food by the students, some of it was sent to a number of technical-vocational schools in the province as part of the cooperation existing among those schools in several areas. Our source also told us that production also included a few tons of tomatoes, onions, and lettuce that were used in the same way.

The school includes a section devoted especially to farmwork--specifically its vitalization and control, among other activities related to that area--the objective being to ensure bigger harvests. Impulse is provided by the presence in the school of cadres capable of working in that section and of others who are still being trained.

One of the difficulties mentioned by our source involves insufficient farm equipment such as hoes and other basic tools, although this does not paralyze the school's agricultural activity. He said: "Of the two tractors we possess, only one is in operating order. It serves the school, the farming section, and other schools in this district which ask to use it."

Struggle To Obtain Water

"Although the effects of the drought are making themselves felt, specifically in the irrigation of our crops, the students and instructors are making efforts to obtain water from the various sources. They have even been going great distances to search for that precious liquid where it is available, especially in the lagoons," said DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE's informant, thus giving a vivid example of the great battle being launched against hunger by the 325 students at the Namaacha Basic Agricultural School.

When questioned by our reporters concerning the level of achievement among the students, Vitorino Mazivila said that during the first half of the year, there was a positive achievement rate of over 50 percent and that better results are expected by the end of the school year.

11/98
CSO: 3442/47

PEASANTS OPEN VENDING STALLS FOR DIRECT SALE OF PRODUCE

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Nov 83 p 2

[Article by Antonio Muiambo]

[Text] Ten vending stalls for the sale of a variety of agricultural products were officially opened in Maputo's Patrice Lumumba Neighborhood Market on Tuesday morning by peasant women from Matchedje Cooperatives 1, 2, and 3. The move is in response to the need for the producers to start selling their produce directly to the consuming public, thus bypassing the middlemen who increase the price of the products or cause them to "disappear."

According to Antonio Fabiao, information officer in the Patrice Lumumba neighborhood, the measure not only benefits the peasant women but is also aimed basically at hampering the profiteering that has been tending to increase in a great number of market stalls, since each middleman was charging prices as he saw fit.

"Before the introduction of this system, in which the producers sell their products directly to the consuming public, speculation was so widespread and serious in the stalls because the middlemen made products available to the customer only when they wanted to.

"Implementation of this system is, above all, a way of doing away with the middlemen who are enriching themselves at the expense of the producer's labor and eliminating the disparities noted in our markets," said Antonio Fabiao, information officer in the Patrice Lumumba neighborhood.

Several members of Matchedje Cooperatives 1, 2, and 3 told our reporters that the current system has put an end to a situation that had been disturbing them for quite some time. The peasants formerly got no benefit from what they produced with their own hands because the middlemen would buy their products at very low prices and then resell them at extremely high prices.

Madalena Mboa, 42, who has worked as a member of the Matchedje 1 Cooperative for 5 years, told us: "I have no objections to the new way of working. I have to praise these new patterns of work because actually, they encourage the real producers. In addition to encouraging the peasants, this system will allow the public to consume more vegetables than before, since the products will not be stolen."

In the opinion of Adelina Vicente Chirindza, 29, who is a member of the Matchedje 2 Cooperative, the fact that the peasants are starting to sell their products directly to the consuming public represents a victory, "because vegetables will appear with at least some frequency in the Patrice Lumumba Neighborhood Market."

She concluded by saying: "If it were not for the transportation problem we face in moving our products, I would say without hesitation that the residents of the Patrice Lumumba neighborhood would be adequately supplied with the products from our farms. Despite that difficulty, we will do everything in our power to ensure that the fruit of our labor benefits the majority."

Constancia Joao Bauque, 34, who is a member of the Matchedje 3 Cooperative, added that if this example were followed by other agricultural cooperatives, profiteering would necessarily decline considerably and the producers would be more active in the fight against hunger.

She emphasized: "As you can see, the stalls are full of products which we ourselves are selling and all of which will be sold to the inhabitants, who currently are having to do without them. Our main objective is not to make money but to get our produce to the consumer without major problems."

And in fact, when we visited the Patrice Lumumba Neighborhood Market yesterday morning, its stalls were "overflowing" with such products as green peppers, carrots, tomatoes, beets, turnips, ears of corn, kale, and so on. They were sold to over 300 persons.

Praiseworthy Initiative

A few minutes after the women from Matchedje Cooperatives 1, 2, and 3 had started selling vegetables at the Patrice Lumumba Neighborhood Market, our reporters talked with a few people who had been the first to buy the products.

Angelina Simone began by telling us: "The initiative by these members of the cooperatives is very praiseworthy. If these products that I was able to buy today had been in the hands of middlemen, I would not have been able to get them or, if I had, the price would have been exorbitant." She went on to say:

"I am certain that if the system were permanent, profiteering would disappear, since the middlemen would have no way to continue hiding the products intended for the public."

Many purchasers told our reporters that if the members of all cooperatives were able to imitate the initiative by the peasant women from Matchedje Cooperatives 1, 2, and 3, profiteering would soon disappear, because no one would continue to buy from the speculating middleman.

The More the Better!

Ten more independent stalls have now been opened. In this instance, the event took place at the Patrice Lumumba

Neighborhood Market in Maputo, and the producers were well received by the consuming public, as has also been the case in other neighborhoods where the same measure has been adopted.

The intention was to allow the system of independent stalls to begin operating over a year ago. Many obstacles were placed in the way, specifically by people who were too hung up on the legalistic aspects. Those people argued that the independent stalls would escape legal controls and that the producers would not comply with hygienic standards: the producers should have a health card in order to sell their products--but not to produce them.

Suddenly, almost spontaneously, and even taking certain government organizations by surprise, the independent stalls are there! Although contrary to the expectations of the nitpickers, they are welcomed joyfully by those who have to go around looking for food to live on. The idea of independent stalls has caught on: it is sprouting, gaining strength, and putting down roots.

The producer--whether an individual or a member of a cooperative, it doesn't matter--grabs his produce, goes to the market in his neighborhood, rents a stall, and sells the fruit of his labor directly to the consuming public at officially listed prices. Without third parties--which is the same as saying without middlemen.

This is a stimulus to the producer. It is an incentive to anyone who produces food. It is a way of ensuring more efficiency in the marketing mechanisms. It is a way of combating profiteering. It is a means of protecting the consumer. Let there be more independent stalls!

11798
CSO: 3442/48

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

FORMER OWNERS THREATEN PEASANTS--In a clear attempt to retain private ownership of land in the Macurungo neighborhood, the women who once owned the farms--and who long ago abandoned them--are preventing farmwork on those lands by threatening the real producers in the zone. In what could be regarded as a meddling attitude at the prospect of losing their alleged property that had been left unproductive, the former landowners of Macurungo are even making threats against the peasant women now engaged in production in that zone. According to statements by the peasant women at a meeting held the day before yesterday, some of the above-mentioned "proprietors" of the land have even gone so far as to make death threats. It was also reported that about 30 farms were not exploited during the past agricultural season because of actions by the aforesaid "proprietors" of the land. It was also learned at the same meeting that after many years of working on farms, there are people who were intimidated this year into abandoning the land in question by threats from the supposed owners or by alleged heirs to the property. [Excerpt] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 4 Nov 83 p 2] 11798

NEW FISHING PROJECT--Recently established among our country's shrimp enterprises is a sector that will devote itself exclusively to catching fish. The operation, known as the experimental fishing program, is aimed chiefly at overcoming the shortage of that product, which is currently one of the biggest obstacles to supplying the people. Establishment of that sector means that in this first phase, the enterprises controlled by the UDIP (Fishing Industry Management Unit) are undertaking large-scale work aimed at ensuring maintenance of the necessary equipment for the shrimp fleet and overcoming the difficulties currently being experienced. The boat repairs now underway in those units are also aimed at improving spoilage conditions so as to eliminate that problem next year. In Beira, work in connection with the experimental fishing program in this city's waters involves a boat called the "Mosinhor." In this context, the city of Beira expects to launch two more boats for experimental fishing next year. Those boats are now being fitted out. Momad Sulemane, director general of the UDIP, told us that "MOSOPESCA, which is a joint Mozambican-Soviet enterprise, received two boats at the start of 1983 for carrying out this work." [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 1 Nov 83 p 3] 11798

EEC GIFT, FRG MEDICAL TEAM--An airplane carrying a gift from the EEC to Mozambique arrived in Maputo this morning. The gift, which is for drought victims, consists of medicine, a Mercedes Benz truck, a Land Rover, biscuits, vitamins and tents--a total of 20 tons. A medical team consisting of two doctors and a nurse from the FRG Red Cross arrived on the same plane. The team is going to work in the Vilanculos district, Inhambane, in liaison with the Mozambique Red Cross. [Text] [MB210837 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Dec 83]

ITALIAN RICE AID--(Paolo Catardi), Italian charge d'affaires in Mozambique, delivered in Maputo today 10,000 tons of rice for drought victims. The rice was received by Francisco Masquill, the secretary of state for supply. The Italian gift includes \$20,000 to purchase fuel for the transportation of the rice. Last year the Italian Government gave 100 tons of soup products to our country. [Excerpts] [MB131930 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Dec 83]

CSO: 3442/101

INTERVIEW OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE VISIT TO ZIGUINCHOR

ABDALLA, Major Domestic Service in French 2900 GMT 21 Dec 83

[0001] [redacted] Minister Ibrahim Wade went to Ziguinchor this morning with his [redacted] secretary, the director of national security, and the [redacted] of the M[inistry] [name unknown]. At the end of his visit to Ziguinchor the former minister was interviewed by Idriss Sall, director of Radio Ziguinchor.

[0002] [redacted] [Sall] Mr Minister, yesterday at the cabinet meeting the head of state reasserted the government's stand in events in Ziguinchor which began at 11 a.m. This stand has always been clear and I quote: "the government will maintain a firm stand on the defense of the territorial integrity of the country, will safeguard the superior interests of the nation, and will ensure respect for the law," unquote. You arrived in Ziguinchor this morning, our colleagues chaired a meeting on security with officials of your department, what did you think the morale of our security forces and what security measures will be taken to ensure their protection after your visit?

[0003] I arrived in Ziguinchor this morning to examine the situation created by some individuals who last Sunday invaded Ziguinchor. In the afternoon, I chaired the joint chiefs of staff meeting of the republic's armed forces in the presence of the governor of the region, officers of the army and the gendarmerie and the national security service. During that meeting we examined all problems concerning these events. Two solutions were suggested and they will be implemented as time goes by.

After meeting, I visited the armed forces, the security forces, the gendarmerie and police based in Ziguinchor since 6 December. During those visits by three hours in the garrisons and in the police stations, I conveyed to the security forces the congratulations and words of encouragement from the head of state, congratulations made during the first cabinet meeting. Those congratulations were well deserved and this fact can be verified with those made at the airport yesterday. The men have undergone harsh tests over the past weeks and have made sacrifices to ensure the security of the people and to defend the territorial integrity.

Moreover, I want I noted that the army is good without exception, the gendarmerie, and the police, and that they are ready to restore stability, the public order, of course, guarding territorial integrity, and I take this opportunity to

assure the population of Ziguinchor and the surrounding areas that their security and protection are ensured by the security forces based in Ziguinchor. So long as there will be fears about a possibility of attacks by those who are hiding in the forest, the security forces will remain in Ziguinchor to ensure as I have said the security of the people and their property in Ziguinchor. Here and elsewhere, the aim of the government is to ensure peace, security, and the wellbeing of the people, and the security forces are ready to assume their duties. [End recording]

CSO: 3419/243

SOUTH AFRICA

PAPER ALLEGES OVER ELECTION OUTCOME

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 5 Dec 83 p 4

[Editorial in the column "Comment"]

[Text] THE rather intriguing outcome of the Soweto elections under the new Black Local Authorities Act over the weekend has such profound significance that the Government has to sit up and take cognisance of so many factors.

We do not want to sound euphoric, since this newspaper refused to give credence to the new Act as a substitute for parliamentary participation by blacks. But the ousting of blue-eyed-boy David Thebehalu and his deputy Tolika Makhaya contains, in its magnitude, the complete rejection of a propaganda machinery that failed to blind voters and non-voters alike to the fact that leaders cannot be rammed down the throats of people.

We are not necessarily happy that somebody else will step into Thebehalu's boots. That is immaterial, as the Black Local Authorities Act will, in our view, remain an impractical exercise for as long as blacks are left out of the decision-making machinery to decide, like all natives of any land, the destiny of their future and their beloved country.

Thebehalu was given so much television time preceding the elections that one decried the shame of a government that wanted to see a man retained not through popular choice of the people but simply because he is an extension of their leadership.

With the Urban Foundation having predicted a 34 percent turnout of voters, the shocking 10 percent recorded is a complete rebuff by the Soweto people and many others throughout the country of the sugar-coated community councils. The low percentage poll--slightly higher than at the last elections--is ample proof that you can take a horse to the river but can never make it drink. In short, the government is flogging a dead horse.

What is of significance is the success of the anti-election campaign by the United Democratic Front, the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) and the Soweto Civic Association. If anything, these organisations have triumphed--if one is to use the low percentage as a barometer. Especially when one considers the optimum of the Government and numerous other bodies such as the Urban Foundation.

Our view is that the Government should consider its arrogant stand that it will proceed with the new Act whatever the percentage poll. It simply cannot turn a blind eye to the fact that not only are leaders of its choice rejected but even its subtle attempts to keep blacks under subjugation through new Acts.

What is clear though is that not only does the Government need to go back to the drawing board but it needs to consult with the authentic black leaders. We are acutely aware that in South Africa, there are two types of black leaders. Those that emerge from the dynamics of the black situation and truly represent the aspirations of their people and those who are mere extensions of white leadership. The former leaders are always incarcerated, driven into exile and generally harassed. And it is these leaders that the Government will have to consult.

As for tycoon Ephraim Tshabalala, who is tipped as the first "mayor" under the new Act, we hope he will keep his promise to abolish rents and evictions.

CSO: 3400/389

MAYOR PROMOTES SPEAKING AFRIKAANS IN NATAL

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Dec 83 p 9

[Text]

DURBAN.—THE Mayor of Durban, Mrs Sybil Hotz, has slammed an advertisement placed in a Durban Afrikaans weekly newspaper last week by the Amanzimtoti Junior Rapportryerskorps, insisting that Afrikaners should speak Afrikaans only while holidaying in Natal.

The advertisement, which appeared on the front page of Tempo, described the province as a "little England" and recommended that Afrikaners should always speak their mother tongue unless a person obviously could not understand it.

Afrikaans was described as a "pearl of value" which bound both English and Afrikaans people more closely to the land and its people.

Mrs Hotz said yesterday she was disappointed that such an advertisement had been placed.

"We have so many challenges ahead of us in the racial context. How on earth can we make progress in that sphere when English and Afri-

kaans-speaking people are still arguing?"

Mrs Hotz said most people made a big effort in Durban and along the coast to accommodate Afrikaans people, and she had not come across any complaints of English-speakers being rude to Afrikaners.

"There is plenty of goodwill between us and we are going to need all of it in the challenging times ahead."

The president of the Durban Chamber of Industries, Mr Sandy Morrison, said he sympathised with Afrikaners who were not able to make themselves understood while in Durban. But he also believed it was often difficult for English-speakers to make themselves understood in certain areas of the platteland.

He did not believe shopkeepers were rude to Afrikaners. It was his experience that people went out of their way to help those people, whether Africans or Afrikaners, who were not at home with the English language. — Sapa.

CSO: 3400/398

TSHABALALA REPORTED INSTALLED AS SOWETO 'MAYOR'

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 7 Dec 83 p 3

[Text]

MR EPHRAIM Tshabalala, leader of the Sofasonke Party was unanimously elected mayor at an emotional ceremony held at the Soweto Council Chambers yesterday.

More than 200 members and supporters of the party, wearing the party's red and white colours filled the public gallery from where they ululated and shouted praises of Mr Tshabalala.

The mayoral election made Mr Tshabalala the first mayor of Soweto under the new Black Local Authorities Act.

Mr Isaac Buthelezi, a loyalist of Mr Tshabalala's during Mr David Thebehal's reign, was also elected unanimously as the deputy mayor after which he acted as an interpreter when Mr Tshabalala broke the official tradition of speaking in English by addressing the meeting in Zulu.

Mr John Knoetze, chairman of the West

Rand Administration Board (Wrab), who installed Mr Tshabalala as mayor, congratulated the new mayor and donated R5 000 which he said the mayor could use at his discretion.

"Many things may be said in the heat of debates during election campaigns, but whatever people say and think about you, you are the representative of the people, you have been elected by them.

"This is a tremendous step forward and not the last. Our task is to work out a dispensation where there will be accommodation for blacks in the political dispensation. May you be blessed with good health, we know you have the brains." Mr Knoetze said.

Delivering his first speech as the new mayor, Mr Tshabalala told councillors that they would have to address council meetings in their mother tongue, a language that would be understood by the people who elected

them.

He said he was a businessman and was going to run the city of Soweto in a "business-like manner and principles."

He said he was going to investigate and support the development of small businesses and construction firms.

"Soweto must be developed by the Soweto people themselves. This is the wish of my dear Government which I want to assist," he said.

An opponent of the sale of council-owned bottle stores to private businessmen, Mr Tshabalala said such sales, together with those of stadiums, and community halls, must be stopped for further investigation.

And good news for Soweto's taxi owners. Mr Tshabalala said he was going to call upon the Government not to accept the recommendations of the Welgemoed Commission into public transport, which seek to stop the use of kombis as taxis.

BOPHUTHATSWANA'S PROSPERITY ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT MANGOPE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Dec 83 p 10

[Article by Anthony Duigan]

[Text]

A plan and a purpose about the way development takes place appear to be the weapons that are winning respect and recognition for Bophuthatswana, one of South Africa's "pariah creations".

The key to this development success are the people President Lucas Mangope has gathered about him in his determined bid to create a viable community with a lifestyle very much different from that of racial South Africa.

The genesis of Bophuthatswana's development drive goes back about five years to when the territory was taking its first steps as a controversial independent State and needed to establish some focus for growth.

Resisting the temptation to go for glamour, President Mangope established his priority: Feed the people by developing the land and its natural resources. This led to the creation of an agricultural development corporation (Agricor) with the aims of producing food and building up a viable, commercial farming class.

Over the past five years Agricor has built up farming projects all over Bophuthatswana, expanding the amount of land under production from 3 500 ha in 1977 to 45 000 ha today.

The secret of this success in an area not unusually well-endowed from an agricultural viewpoint is the professional staff Agricor has attracted and its method of binding farmers into contracting units.

A major hurdle which Agricor faces is the large number of subsistence farmers who are finding it increasingly difficult to exist on their small patches of land, but who, nonetheless, have traditional rights to farming land.

"The only way to make these individual plots viable was to bind the farmers into groups," said Mr Steve Worth of Agricor. "In this way the farmers in one unit share the tractor and implements required for the production. One of the farmers in the unit is appointed the contractor and performs, for a fee, the bulk of the cultivating operations for the farmers in his unit."

But at the same time the farmer is kept very involved in the work on his particular plot because the ultimate responsibility for his farm's production is still his.

The next step was to build on the already established co-operative system of farming by treating a large number of plots as a single unit and seconding professional management to the projects which combined thousands of farmers.

The applied expertise paid off in enormous increases in the productivity of basic foodstuffs like maize, which showed a 10-fold increase in the few years up to 1981 when drought began its ravages in South Africa.

These yields brought in unprecedented incomes for farmers. On one scheme, Ditsobotla, just over 2 000 farmers received nearly R3 million for their 1980-81 maize crop.

"Having proved we could feed ourselves we have been returning to the concept of community development as being a prime objective of our efforts," said Mr Worth.

The physical planning of community service centres with full facilities for farming areas became an integral part of agricultural projects. "Our objective has become the establishment of sound rural communities which offer a life comparable with that in urban areas," he added.

"In this way we're using agriculture as a vehicle for community development and to further develop our resources."

This approach to farming was given the Tswana name "Temisano" (literally meaning farming together). Defined, this concept encompasses the setting up of communities based on viable agricultural production, community development, training and secondary agro-industries.

The latter is becoming of particular importance because Bophuthatswana has recognised that it can

support at most 100 000 of its people — fewer than one in 10 — directly from the land.

The current drought has helped this focus. Says Agricor managing director, Mr Dawid Beuster: "Are we finally growing up and facing the realities of our existence? Perhaps the most difficult conclusion to draw from this drought is the fact that the ability of Bophuthatswana's agricultural lands to offer gainful employment to the people of this nation is limited.

"The creation of agro-industries and related enterprises must be given greater attention."

In relatively few years the concept of agricultural development has evolved from simple farming to one of integrated rural development — with a team of dedicated professionals who are helping to make barren lands bloom.

"We hope to supply the boots and the laces for the people," says Mr Beuster. It is the people who are pulling themselves up by these bootstraps.

CSO: 3400/398

UNEMPLOYMENT EXPECTED TO SURPASS TWO MILLION

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 4

[Article by Amrit Manga]

[Text]

UNEMPLOYMENT in South Africa, including the homelands, will pass the 2-million mark by the end of this year.

The projected figure represents 25% of the total labour supply of almost 9.5-million, according to the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldu).

This will push the increase in unemployment since the beginning of the recession up to almost 4% from the 2.1% recorded in 1981.

The increase is, however, less than that experienced during the recession of the late Seventies, when unemployment rose by 6.9% from 13.7% in 1975 to 20.6% in 1979.

But the most recent National Manpower Commission estimates of unemployment based on the registered number of work-seekers stands well below at 102 643, 13 198 of which are whites.

This estimate does not take into account unemployment in the agricultural sector or the homelands, and excludes work-seekers not registered.

A third estimate reflected in the Current Population Survey (CPS) indicates that 280 000 more people than the total number registered with the Department of Manpower are out of work.

But even the CPS does not cover the national states.

"Thus contract workers losing their jobs and having to return immediately to these homelands are not reflected in the CPS unemployment figures," according to Unisa Institute of Labour Relations.

Professor Nic Wiehahn of the institute reckons that the high percentage of jobless must be seen in the light of the Saldu definition of unemployment.

He explains that unemployment should be seen as being made up of both qualified and stringently defined unemployment.

"A large proportion of the unemployment pool is made up of the qualified unemployed category, which includes restricted African labour based in the homelands," he says.

CSO: 3400/398

DE LANGE REPORT ON EDUCATION ANALYZED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 27 Nov 83 p 39

[Article by Franklin Sonn: "Cut Off One Apartheid Head and Five Grow in Its Place"]

[Text]

A CURSORY glance at education in South Africa will reveal three main features:

- Racial separation.
- Inequality of standards and educational facilities between the groups.
- Outmoded and inadequate educational systems.

Jointly and severally these factors have in the recent past given rise to a variety of tensions and crises.

Industrial and commercial leaders complain that the products of the educational system find it difficult to cope with the demands of a modern technocratic world.

The dropout rate among black pupils is alarmingly high, while they lack proficiency in subjects like mathematics and science largely because of a chronic shortage of suitably qualified teachers compounded by a dearth of environmental support for the more exact disciplines.

The obvious inequality of the physical facilities like suitably equipped school buildings bears clear evidence of the wide discrepancy in government spending on education for whites and blacks.

The De Lange Commission of Enquiry was a serious effort to address these matters.

It stands to the credit of South Africa that never before anywhere in the world has there been such a thorough attempt to diagnose education and to come up with possible solutions.

The eradication of inequality in the provision of education and educational standards, as well as recommendations to update educational systems proffered by the De Lange Report, have received broad approval by government.

The White Paper reveals an earnest intention by government to attempt to provide considerable improvements in the educational dispensation for the underprivileged sectors of the population.

Notable in this regard is the commitment to the establishment of an equal subsidy formula for the various departments, to an equal system of norms to be used for planning and evaluating new school buildings.

Noteworthy also is the government's commitment in the White Paper to the expansion of pre-basic education, and to the better use of educational facilities for formal and non-formal education.

Resources

Welcome mention is made of the more efficient deployment of scarce resources and to the expansion of resources involving educational technology.

Probably the most promising and, at the same time, obfuscating feature of government's response is its agreement to the institution of the multiracial South African Council of Education (SACE) which will advise "the Minister" on macro policy.

The element of confusion is caused by the insistence on five Ministers of equal standing with the Minister of National Education in charge of macro issues like an umbrella education policy, ostensibly giving them

the same de facto status of the Chief Minister of Education and suggestive of a single Education Ministry.

Be that as it may, this mixed South African Council on Education is potentially a very influential body which could give a degree of legitimacy to education management structure if government will resist the temptation of appointing its members from the ranks of educational bureaucrats.

The White Paper contains positive recognition of the professional status of teachers by affording them structures through which to make an organised contribution to the content of education and to bargain for improvement of their service conditions.

It must be noted, however, that the unifying factor in the creation of a central registration body for teachers is negated in the unacceptable proposal for separate teachers' councils.

The White Paper reveals a heartening willingness by government to heed the De Lange Commission's recommendation to give parents a greater say in educational matters at the third level of educational management.

Other important and positive advancements are the establishment of regional guidance centres, the emphasis on educational technology and attention to non-formal and pre-school education.

All of these wonderful advances proposed for education in South Africa should have given all of us reason to be overjoyed by the enlightened action of a government interested in educational development and peaceful progress in South Africa.

However, as with so many otherwise good things in South Africa, the ugly head of apartheid has not only once again reared itself, but is showing a tendency to proliferate in education departments.

Despite the De Lange Report's recommendation that there should be one single Ministry of Education, the government declared that there shall be five, and that education from preschool to university will be treated as an "own affair".

Government, in stating its commitment to equality in the provision of education, apparently takes no account of the widespread conviction, based on worldwide experience in recent times, that there is an inherent contradiction between equal opportunities and separate educational systems for different population groups.

Apart from the ideological opposition to separate education, there are important considerations.

Economic

We are of course aware of the state of economic depression in which the country finds itself.

In times like these, we are told, we need to economise wherever we can.

Against this background, it is very difficult to fathom the moral or economic merit of allowing good school buildings in so-called white areas to stand empty while children of colour in the same town have to run double-shift classes.

Similarly, it makes no sense to speak of reform on the one hand and on the other to tolerate a situation where teacher-training colleges designated for whites are running empty or virtually empty while there is a critical shortage of qualified teachers and teacher-training facilities in South Africa.

The De Lange Report, when recommending "free association" and "parental choice" in the access of pupils to schools obviously had in mind the way matters were developing in South Africa after the appearance of the Wiehahn and Riekert Reports.

It accepted the fact that education is a powerful socialising agent and that education policy should begin to reflect the changes in labour policy.

In the wake of the Wiehahn and Riekert Reports new labour legislation was introduced to remove most of the legal racial barriers in the workplace.

Application of the principle of "free association" to education policy would have done much to promote mutual acceptance and to eradicate negative attitudes of suspicion and condemnation based on race.

However, while labour policy has been liberalised to meet economic demands, education remains divided along racial lines.

A unique opportunity to encourage the youth of South Africa to abandon prejudice and commit themselves to a new set of attitudes and values has not only been lost, but deliberately rejected.

A likely consequence will be that alienated schoolchildren will, as future workers, join unions and advance their political aspirations in that sphere.

There is an element of irony in the fact that, arising out of the schools crisis in 1980, the overriding reason for the appointment of the De Lange Commission was political.

Foolish

Strictly educational considerations were secondary.

In its response to the Commission's recommendations, however, the government has chosen to concentrate on those aspects of education which are more "neutral" and less "political" rather than on meeting the real needs of which were given expression in 1980.

When all is said and done, the educational process can only succeed if it has gained legitimacy among its users.

For this to happen they must believe that the education with their best interests in mind and that it is geared to satisfy their true aspirations.

As a South African who genuinely wants peace in South Africa I am concerned about government's under-estimation of the depth of feeling of people classified "coloured" against apartheid.

The political response to the White Paper is likely to increase alienation and will make peaceful accommodation increasingly difficult.

It is being said that, should trouble in our schools recur, it would be an "own affair" and would have to be dealt with as such.

If indeed this was one of the factors which caused the insistence on apartheid education it is short-sighted and foolish, for no matter how hard some try to prove the converse — the South African economy and population are indivisibly one and injury to one is injury to both.

We have had victory, but we have also had defeats.

We have not lost heart. All people who love and believe in peace know that apartheid is incompatible with this precious ideal.

We owe it to our country to continue to strive towards the values and systems which will remove the ever-impending threat of upheaval, and which will reduce the terrible tensions which weigh heavily on us.

CSO: 3400/398

MUSLIM YOUTH MOVEMENT REJECTS RACIST 'REFORMS'

Cape Town MUSLIM NEWS in English 4 Nov-1 Dec 83 p 20

[Text]

The Muslim Youth Movement of SA has outrightly rejected the recent referendum and also rejects any future referendums arranged on the same racist basis.

A statement issued to MUSLIM NEWS says that the MYM is based on the ideology of Islam. 'This ideology teaches us that differences in man on the basis of colour, language and whatever else are no less than SIGNS (Aayaat) of Allah, ie proof of His existence, and should not be used as a basis for discriminating between people.'

The MYM adds, 'The present South African society is built on discrimination between people on the basis of these differences and the latest "reform programme" is in no uncertain terms a movement towards a further entrenchment of these racist and discriminatory social relations. Referendums and representative councils on the grounds of colour is clearly the basis on which the latest "reform programme" is built.'

Furthermore, in drawing up the "reform programme", the important Islamic principle of Shura (consultation) was violated, as the majority of the people in South Africa have been left out of the consultations.

'It is in this light that the MYM finds itself with no other alternative but to reject outrightly the entire "reform programme" of the racist South African regime, which includes, inter alia, the following:

The PC Proposals;

The Koornhof Bills;

Bantustan Homelands;

The Wiehahn & Riekert Commissions on Labour;

The De Lange Commission on Education; and

All other commissions, bills and legislation which form part of their overall reform programme

'We call upon all Muslims to reject the entire "Constitutional Reform Programme" of the racist South African Government on the basis of Qur'an and Sunnah alone.'

CSO: 3400/398

DETAILS ON ORGANIZATION OF MASS JUM'AH GIVEN

Cape Town MUSLIM NEWS in English 4 Nov-1 Dec 83 pp 1, 20

[Text]

The Concerned Muslims, organising the mass Jum'ah on December 16, have confirmed to MUSLIM NEWS that a member of the administrative committee has been dismissed after he had applied for permission to the Chief Magistrate of Wynberg to perform the Jum'ah at the Johnstone Road Sportsfield in Rylands Estate.

It is with shock and regret that the administrative committee realized that one of its members had exceeded his instructions. Under no circumstances did the committee instruct the said member to apply for permission to perform Jum'ah.

Punitive action has already been taken against him and he has been dismissed from the committee. Fellow members were also reprimanded for failing to be more vigilant.

After realizing that a grave mistake had been committed the the Concerned Muslims instructed attorneys to withdraw the application.

The official position of Concerned Muslims is that we cannot and will never apply for permission to perform the Jum'ah.

They also warn that Muslims must be beware of any conspiracy — instigated by the oppressor — to

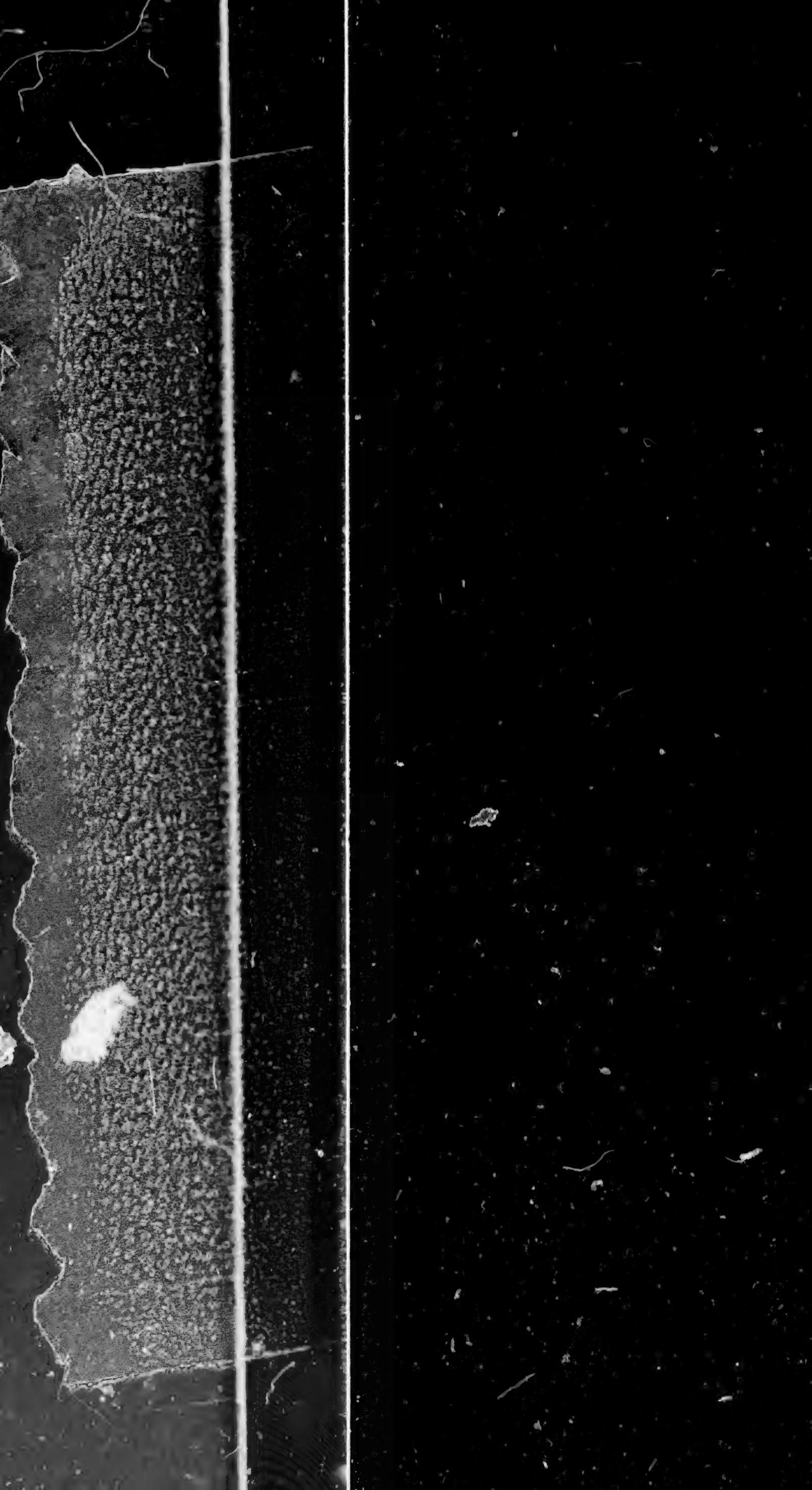
sabotage the Jum'ah.

In a press release confirming the Johnstone Road Sportsfield in Rylands Estate (opposite Vygieskraal) as the venue for the mass Jum'ah, the Concerned Muslims state:

'For the first time in more than 180 years the Muslims in South Africa will be holding Jum'ah at a common venue. The last time such an historic event took place was when Tuan Guru held Jum'ah in a disused quarry at the top of Strand Street, Cape Town.'

'Bearing in mind that from 1657 to 1804 anybody who spread Islam in public could be sentenced to death, Tuan Guru organized the Jum'ah in defiance of the law.'

'At the moment there are more than 60 masajid in the Western Cape alone. And at most of these Jum'ah is performed every Friday. The Ummah — the global community of truth, sacrifice and action — have not had the opportunity to meet at a common gathering. Such a gathering is long overdue.'



*The Believers are a single
Brotherhood...*

(Al-Qur'an 49:10)

The establishment of Muslim brotherhood is the greatest social ideal of Islam. This ideal can only, and will only, function on the principle of social justice for all. The Ummah must therefore strive ceaselessly and continuously to implement social justice and they must at all times be vigilant about our unity.

We dare not leave our unity to chance!

We become united, we are united and will remain united for a specific purpose. If we are divided, disunited and fragmented then we facilitate our own dehumanization, humiliation and oppression.

For many decades our unity was but a dream within a dream, elusive and illusionary — let us hope that the unity talks that will follow the mass Jum'ah on December 16 will not fade into that dream.

The disclosure that a member of the organising committee instructed an attorney to seek permission to hold the Jum'ah is not a careless error of judgement. It is a very serious blunder because it amounts to asking the state to sanction something that is commanded by Allah:

O ye who believe! When the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday (the day of assembly), hasten earnestly

to the remembrance of Allah, and leave off business (and traffic); that is best for you if ye but knew.

(Al-Qur'an 62:9)

It is, however, encouraging to note that once the rest of the committee learnt of the application the guilty member was dismissed from the administration. This swift action should serve as an example to other organisations that they should not hesitate to take punitive action against members who transgress a fundamental principle. Let us hope that this spirit continues to guide those organising the mass Jum'ah and conference. For, what they have embarked on — the search for unity — is sacred. Our unity is sacred because we have a sacred duty to perform: the liberation of the oppressed and the establishment of a just, universal social order based on the Shariah.

O ye who believe! when ye meet a force be firm, and call Allah in remembrance much (and often); that ye may prosper: and obey Allah and His Rasul and fall not into no disputes, lest ye lose heart and your power depart; and be patient and persevering: for Allah is with those who patiently persevere. And be not like those who started from their homes insolently, and to be seen of men, and to hinder (men) from the path of Allah: for Allah compasseth round about all that they do.

(Al-Qur'an 8: 44-47)

FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN URDU CONFERENCE ORGANIZED

Cape Town MUSLIM NEWS in English 4 Nov-1 Dec 83 p 6

[Text]

The Natal Buzme Adab has taken the bold step of organising the first ever South African National Urdu Conference and Mushaira.

The two-day event commences at 10am on Sunday November 27 at the Orient Board Room in Durban.

Dr Unus E Meer will deliver the presidential address. Thereafter the following speakers will address the first session of the conference:

Mr Ebrahim Osman: Introduction and planning of Urdu in schools
Prof Habibul Haq Nadvi: Importance of Urdu in our environment
Mrs Khursheed Nadvi: Urdu and our culture

A Qais: Urdu in the Cape
Prof Salman Nadvi: Role of Mushairas in promoting Urdu
Maulana Abdur Razak: Place of Urdu in religious education
Mrs Zuleikha Mayet: Urdu in our homes

The afternoon session commences at 2pm and the following speakers

will deliver papers during this session:

Moulana Khalil: Methodology of teaching Urdu
Moulana Yunus Patel: Our madressas and Urdu
Dr D S Mall: Relationship of Urdu to Arabic
Mr Safee Siddiqui: Role of radio in promoting Urdu
Mr M A Mehtar Farooqi: History of Urdu in South Africa
Mr M H Sirkot (Shabab): Urdu in the Transvaal
Mrs Syeda Ansari: Future of Urdu in South Africa
Moulana Abdur Rauf: Impact on Urdu of speeches by visiting Ulema from India and Pakistan

The National Urdu Mushaira will be held in the Orient Hall on Monday November 28 at 8pm. Two Cape Town *Shairis*, A Qais and Gulzar Khan, will be participating. They will be joined by *Shairis* from Transvaal and Natal.

Admission is free and members as well as non-members are welcome.

OPENING OF ANC, SWAPO 'PROPAGANDA' OFFICES HIT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 8 Dec 83 p 6

[Editorial in the column "The CITIZEN Comment": "Propaganda"]

[Text]

YOU'D have thought that an organisation like the African National Congress, which uses terror for political purposes, would be barred from setting up offices round the world.

But no, it has at least 30 offices from which to peddle its propaganda and pose as a liberation force.

The latest office is in Australia, which has also given Swapo, which uses terror, too, the right to open an office.

The Australian Government announced in October that while it did not condone the armed struggle of the ANC and Swapo, it would allow them to open information offices in Australia because of their basic democratic right to circulate information about the "repulsive" political system in South Africa.

But why should the Australian Government stop there? Why should it not allow the Palestine Liberation Organisation to set up offices from which to justify its terrorist activities and warlike feuding?

Why not let the Irish Republican Army set up offices as well, since it, too, has a "basic democratic right", if we are to believe the Australian Government, to circulate information about its long battle against British rule in Northern Ireland?

Then the Australians could allow the Islamic fanatics, who have caused such terrible loss of life in Beirut with their attacks on American and French bases, to have their "democratic" say.

The trouble, of course, is that Australia and other countries have fallen for the propaganda that the ANC and Swapo consist of freedom fighters, not terrorists, and their cause justifies whatever awful means they use — even if innocent men, women and children are killed or maimed.

We do not for a moment minimise the propaganda effect the two organisations have in their worldwide campaign.

They are backed by the Russians, who are masters at disinformation and who are manipulating both for their own purposes.

Each time the ANC or Swapo opens an office, more poison is spewed about South Africa. This conditions an uninformed public to accept that South Africa is like Hitler Germany in its racial oppression of the Blacks and that it is hanging on to South West Africa against the wishes of the territory's inhabitants.

The pity is that we are not effectively countering this propaganda. Who knows, we may still have secret projects on the go, but after the Info affair, our propaganda has been sorely blunted.

CSO: 3400/398

FRANCE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM WESTERN CONTACT GROUP WELCOMED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Dec 83 p 6

[Editorial in the column "The CITIZEN Comment": "Good Riddance"]

[Text]

WE are not surprised that France has pulled out of the Western contact group which has been trying to achieve a settlement of the South West African dispute.

Not surprised because France, although it values its trade with South Africa, has been increasingly hostile.

The French Foreign Minister, Mr Cheysson, attacked South Africa bitterly in 1982, saying:

"How could France be a member of the Western alliance while at the same time it has as an ally a regime (South Africa) which is founded on a system of racial discrimination, racial pressures."

He added: "Why should we be allied to South Africa when it is completely opposed to all our ideas. It is intolerable, it is intolerable."

Earlier this year he made a point of attending the conference on South West Africa sponsored by the Council on Namibia, although no other members of the contact group was present.

He revealed that after the abortive 1981 Geneva conference aimed at implementing the United Nations plan for South West Africa, France considered leaving the contact group. This, however, would have caused a scandal, and the French Government decided that the group could exert more pressure on South Africa by staying together.

He also made known his Government's differences with the Americans over the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for a settlement.

Mr Cheysson told the conference "only unacceptable pretexts and conditions raised by others" were delaying a settlement.

As a result of Mr Cheysson's remarks, South Africa's Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, advised the Administrator-General in South West Africa not to share a platform with the French Ambassador at the centenary celebrations in Luderitz.

In June this year Mr Cheysson said the contact group had completed its work six months previously and the United Nations resolution for the territory must be finally implemented.

"Everybody in the contact group knows how many helicopters and how many troops will be needed and how the referendum will be organised. We have no right to delay any longer the Namibian people's desire for independence."

He admitted he had wanted to leave the contact group, but "nearly all the African countries urged France to stay and we agreed. We remained at their suggestion. Whether we would do so again, I cannot say."

Now Mr Cheysson has told the French National Assembly that the "Government of Angola particularly made known recently that it thought the work of the contact group could not contribute anything more.

"The French Government has thus decided that it will not take part in any further meeting of the contact group."

The group "must be put to sleep, because it is unable to exercise honestly the mandate it was given."

We say good riddance, for it is better to continue the settlement negotiations without a country that is so biased against South Africa and so patently enamoured with Swapo's cause.

Besides, France hasn't contributed anything towards a settlement and it will not be missed.

The danger is that France's opting out will increase pressure on the United States to disband the group.

But that would impede rather than help bring about a solution.

The remaining four members of the group, — the United States, Britain, West Germany and Canada — should keep the negotiations going.

After the discussions Mr Botha has held in Portugal, which still has close ties with Angola, its former colony, something may be moving . . .

If so, the chances of a settlement could be brighter.

CSO: 3400/398

CONSERVATIVE PARTY AGREES TO HNP COOPERATION OFFER

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Dec 83 p 1

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text] The Conservative Party executive decided at a special meeting in Pretoria yesterday to accept the Herstigte Nasionale Party offer of co-operation in elections in principle.

Mr A.C. van Wyk, general secretary of the CP, said after the meeting "the CP has decided to conduct all further negotiations with the HNP regarding co-operation in elections on a confidential basis."

The Citizen understands the CP executive has decided not to issue any further statements to the Press regarding possible co-operation with the HNP because "certain newspapers always handle it in a manner which ends up in a negative result for both the CP and the HNP."

The Citizen also understands the CP executive has considered the HNP's offer that the CP puts up the parliamentary candidate and the HNP the provincial candidate in the Soutpansberg by-elections next February 15.

But it is not clear yet what the CP executive's decision was. One possibility now is that the HNP will contest the Soutpansberg Provincial seat and that both the CP and HNP will fight together as a single organisation for the CP parliamentary and the HNP's provincial candidates.

Another possibility is that, after the CP's strong performance on Soutpansberg in the "Battle of the Berge" by-elections, the CP might put up both the parliamentary and provincial candidates and still get the full party and organisational support of the HNP.

It is expected that CP and HNP representatives will meet soon to iron out any further problems regarding co-operation in Soutpansberg as well as in elections in general, including a possible early general election.

CSO: 3400/298

BANK OF LISBON ASSETS INCREASE REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Dec 83 p 20M

[Article by Duncan Collings]

[Text] Bank of Lisbon chairman Dr S.P. du Toit Viljoen questions whether the world economic recovery will be sufficiently strong and sustained to generate the investments which are needed for economic growth to be robust and to continue.

He says in the bank's annual report that this is particularly pertinent when viewed against the background of the enormous US budget and balance of payments deficits, the consequent danger of high interest rates, the debt burden of the developing countries and the tendency towards protectionism.

Referring to the South African economy, Dr du Toit Viljoen says an improved liquidity situation and a further reduced inflation rate are prerequisites for economic recovery.

He emphasises that this implies sustained monetary and fiscal discipline and, in the short term, high interest rates, depressed investment, reduced economic activity, declining profits and more unemployment.

Nonetheless, he says, it seems that the recession is bottoming out and that a number of external and internal forces are at work which will make for an improved economic performance towards the middle of next year.

Concerning the Bank of Lisbon, Dr du Toit Viljoen says that as a result of rapid growth in the year under review it had been necessary to increase the capital of the bank by R932 000, which was fully subscribed by existing shareholders.

In the year to September 31 disclosed profits of the bank increased by 25 percent to R1 million. Total assets increased by R38 million to R233 million and total deposits and other accounts by R30 million to R185 million.

A maiden dividend of R200 000 was declared.

Commenting on increased competition among commercial banks, managing director Dr D.F. Marques says that a close look was taken at the bank's competitiveness.

It was agreed that the interests of the bank and of its clients would be served best by the bank continuing its policy of providing a "personal" rather than "automatic" approach to meeting the banking needs of its clients.

Dr du Toit Viljoen says the increased competition is likely to remain a permanent feature of the banking system and future growth and profitability will be with banks which have the best planning, the best range of services and the best trained staff.

Dr Marques says that the Registrar has approved in principle the formation of Lisabond (Pty) and Lisbon Nominees (Pty) as the management and nomineæ companies respectively of the bank's first mortgage participation scheme.

CSO: 3400/398

EXTENT OF GOVERNMENT BORROWING REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Dec 83 p 23

[Article by Daan De Kock]

[Text]

THE Government emerged as the biggest single borrower on the prime and secondary capital markets this year. On its own, it was responsible for more than 41 percent of all activities on the market, and expectations are that this percentage could increase further this year.

Figures released by Senbank last week showed that the Government and its satellites (National Housing Commission, SATS, Post Office, etc) borrowed about R2 500-million on the capital markets. The Government was responsible for R1 875-million while the satellites borrowed about R625-million.

Another interesting statistic is that the Government is issued only about R460-million worth of new liquid RSAs whereas RSAs to the value of R933-million expired. the difference between these two amounts also had to be found on the capital market.

There is a strong possibility that the Reserve Bank will change its definition of liquid assets early in the new year. In the future only one-year RSAs will probably qualify as liquid assets.

The second biggest category was Public Corporations which borrowed a total of R1 407-million. Needless to say, this section was dominated by Escom. About 68 percent of the activity was on the secondary market and about 32 percent on the prime market.

The Black states, Development Corporations and South West Africa borrowed a total of R257-million. SWA alone took up R106-million which left the Black states and the Development Corporations with the small amount of only R151-million.

The rest was made up by peri-urban boards and municipalities (R164-million); administration boards (R56-million); water boards (R99-million) and technicons and universities (R46,9-million).

I was told that the new lists will probably be made available this week. One can expect the Government to feature very prominently on the list again. The other one is municipalities. This year a substantial number of municipalities cancelled their issues because interest rates moved against them.

On this score, it seems likely that the proposed Local Loan Funds could take over loan activities of the municipalities completely. For one thing, municipalities will be able to get their money cheaper.

On the same note it is expected that the stock of all departments on the budget of the Central Government, which had not been founded by its own legislation (National Housing, Transport Services, etc) will be upgraded to the same level as RSA stock next year.

This will enable them to borrow money at a cheaper rate and at the same time the marketability of those stocks should also improve considerably.

On the secondary capital market the gold price obviously did not play ball last week. With the sharp drop in the price on Friday, rates reacted upwards and expectations are that the situation could continue at least on the short-term.

Apart from the gold price, there also exists stronger upward pressure on short-term rates which contributed to the stronger rates on the capital market.

The following trading rates were quoted by the National Acceptances at noon on Friday: RSA 11% 1998 13,70% (13,41%); RSA 11,5% 2001 13,81% (13,50%); RSA 12,5% 2003 13,61% (13,35%); Escom Loan 154 14,27% (14,05%).

On the money market the shortage approached the R2 000-million mark and the announcement of the roll-over of the R500-million repurchase agreement to January therefore came as no surprise.

Certain commentators are of the opinion that the reduction in the liquid asset requirements of the banks last week was designed to offset the effects of the Sasol rights issue.

It is expected, however, that the issue will have no immediate effect on rates.

A further increase in the prime lending rate to 20 percent was expected on Friday but nothing happened. Everything still points, however, to a higher prime and it is likely that it could be increased this week.

Certain commentators believe that the situation after the Sasol issue could improve to such an extent that it would not be necessary.

CSO: 3400/398

FIRST INCREASE IN REAL GDP SINCE 1981 REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Dec 83 p 20M

[Article by Trevor Walker]

[Text]

South Africa's real gross domestic product showed its first quarterly increase since the fourth quarter of 1981 in the three months ended September 30, according to the Reserve Bank.

It was evident that real output of the non-agricultural sectors of the economy increased further in the third quarter after it had begun to rise in the previous quarter, the Bank said in its latest quarterly review.

In the first three quarters of this year, real GDP was about 4.5 percent lower than in the corresponding period a year ago.

But with prospective output in the fourth quarter remaining at the somewhat higher level of the third quarter, the decline for the year was expected to be round about three percent.

A sectoral breakdown of real GDP in the third quarter showed that agricultural output fell to its lowest quarterly level in 15 years.

Because of the drought there was a fairly small decline in the output of the electricity, gas and water.

But output of most other sectors of the economy increased, in particular that of gold as well as non-gold mining, manufacturing, construction, commerce and the service sectors.

Because of the lower gold price, South Africa's terms of trade deteriorated further in the third quarter.

Real net factor payments to the rest of the world, however, decreased considerably, largely because of a substantial reduction in interest and dividend payments to foreigners.

As a result the real gross national product rose considerably in the third quarter and the GNP in the first nine

months of this year was only about two percent lower than the corresponding period a year ago.

The Bank said the current account of the balance of payments surplus at a seasonally adjusted rate declined from R1.67 billion and R1.79 billion in the first and second quarters to R1.32 billion in the third quarter.

This was due to an increase in merchandise imports and a simultaneous small decline in merchandise exports.

There was a small R57 million net inflow of capital into the country in the third quarter after a R1.4 billion outflow in the first half of the year, mainly in the form of a net outward movement of short-term funds.

The Bank said new arrangements introduced in the foreign exchange market in early September had little immediate impact on the rand.

On balance, the rand appreciated by one percent in terms of all other currencies during the third quarter. This brought the total appreciation during the first nine months to 3.5 percent.

But the sharp decline in the gold price from the beginning of October caused the effective exchange rate to fall by nearly 4.5 percent during that month to about one percent below its level at the end of 1982.

The Bank said the real estate market retained some of its buoyancy in the third quarter, but the rate of increase in the value of transactions slowed down greatly.

Seasonally adjusted, these transactions rose from R1 995 million in the first quarter to R2 960 million in the second quarter and R3 048 million in the third quarter.

CSO: 3400/398

RELOCATION OF CITY CHINESE ENVISIONED

Port Elizabeth EVENING POST in English 25 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Bessie Bouwer]

[Text]

THE only Chinese group area in South Africa, Kabega Park in Port Elizabeth, may soon disappear, depending on the results of an investigation by the Department of Community Development.

The department has called for a ruling on the desirability or otherwise of the deproclamation of Kabega Park into a white group area with "border strips if and where necessary".

Interested persons may give further evidence in support of their views regarding the investigation with the permission of the investigating committee.

The deadline for representations is January 20, 1984.

Kabega Park was declared a Chinese group area about 14 years ago.

In welcoming the investigation, Mr Gordon Loyson,

the leader of the Chinese Community in Port Elizabeth, said it was the wish of Port Elizabeth's Chinese community to have the area deproclaimed as properties would subsequently appreciate in an "open market".

A second reason for Chinese approval was that the "stigma" attached to living in a group area would be eliminated. Port Elizabeth was the only place in South Africa where Chinese had to live with this situation, said Mr Loyson.

The regional representative of the Department of Community Development in Port Elizabeth was not available for comment today.

A map indicating the situation of the proposed area is available for inspection from the Town Clerk's office and at Room 334 of the Department of Community Development, Eben Donges Building, Port Elizabeth.

CSO: 3400/398

PLAN FOR BLACK OWNERSHIP OF HOUSES SAID FAILING

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 8 Dec 83 p 1

[Article by Mzikayise Edom]

[Text] LESS than 1 000 houses out of 238 000 announced for sale in the massive government-approved home-ownership scheme for blacks have so far been bought.

This was said yesterday by spokesmen for the East Rand, West Rand, Orange-Vaal and Central Administration Boards, which have initiated the scheme in their areas.

Figures for the rest of the country could not be obtained, but they are not expected to be much better than the PWV area, where less than 1 000 of the 238 000 houses offered for sale have been bought.

--The East Rand Administration Board (Erab) has only managed to sell 500 houses out of the 53 000 homes for sale in the 14 townships under its jurisdiction.

--The West Rand Administration Board (Wrab) has only sold 69 houses out of the 105 000 for sale in townships under its administration.

--A Central Administration Board spokesman said only 207 out of 20 000 houses in Pretoria's Atteridgeville and Mamelodi townships had been sold.

--And the Orange-Vaal Administration Board has sold 215 houses out of an estimated 60 000.

Mr D Ganz, the chairman of the Orange-Vaal Administration Board said another 1 000 families had applied to buy houses.

"At the moment we are still processing these applications and if all goes according to plan the 1 000 families will be able to buy their houses early next year," said Mr Ganz.

The chief director of Erab, Mr F E Marx, felt that a high unemployment rate could have resulted in families being unable to afford houses.

He added: "Another reason could be that a number of residents in the townships do not know the procedure involved in buying houses."

But residents interviewed by The SOWETAN said the houses the government was selling to them were very old and the selling price was very high.

Under the new home ownership scheme, residents can only buy their houses under the 99-year leasehold scheme. Those residents who have bought their houses under the 30-year leasehold can convert this to 99-year leasehold for R600.

Twenty percent discount will be given to people who pay for their houses in full before August 1984.

The Department of Community Development is offering financial assistance for people earning less than R150 a month to buy houses.

Spokesmen for the administration boards said they hoped the scheme would improve after the festive season.

CSO: 3400/389

BLACK DEMAND FOR AUTOMOBILES EXPECTED TO INCREASE

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 3

[Article by Angus McMillan]

[Text] Car manufacturers will have to look to blacks for most of their growth in years to come, according to figures from Central Statistical Services in Pretoria.

This market sector has shown the most significant growth in the past 10 years, and it is only a matter of time before the white sector reaches saturation point.

An equation that measures the car wealth of white South Africans is: average white household equals 2,5 cars. This ratio puts them second only to Americans and is nearing the maximum three cars a family put forward by many pundits.

December 1982 saw 497 vehicles for 1 000 white population, 66 for 1 000 coloureds, 180 for every 1 000 Indians and 22 out of each 1 000 blacks as registered owners of vehicles.

For whites this represents a 20% increase on 1970, 135% for coloureds, 116% for Indians and a 266% increase for blacks, who owned six vehicles for every 1 000 persons 13 years ago.

Blacks now own more than 227 000 passenger cars, 22 000 mini-buses and 134 000 commercial vehicles and, along with coloureds and Indians, are becoming a considerable market force as their buying power increases.

These figures do not distinguish between new and used vehicles, but, with manufacturers and parts suppliers aware that saturation of the white market is not far off, it will increasingly be black buyers that are wooed in the new car market.

Naamsa, the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa, sees sales of new cars to blacks increasing by 18%-20% a year over the next decade.

Allied to this trend is an increase in do-it-yourself repairs, which has prompted the National Automobile Parts Association (Napa), SA's largest buying and selling wholesale parts co-operative, to establish a retail arm.

Its King Midas franchise is designed to capture a share of the DIY market, which has grown from 20% of parts sales in 1978 to 28% this year, according to MD Sarel de Vos.

Other reasons for Napa's retail venture are to safeguard the distribution function of independent wholesalers which has been eroded by the development of specialist fitment centres and retail chains, market share of all parts programmes of vehicle manufacturers and the entry of hypermarkets on to the scene.

He sees growth in black car ownership as a catalyst for DIY sales as maintenance costs continue to burgeon.

CSO: 3400/398

DETAILS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION GIVEN

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 5

[Article by Barry Sergeant]

[Text]

AGRICULTURE is South Africa's biggest industry on a value-added basis. This applies even in 1983, when gross farming income is estimated to fall from last year's R7 259-million to R6 500-million.

Because the vast majority of agricultural production is processed within the borders of South Africa — transport, refinement, packaging, marketing and retailing — the value added accrues directly to South Africans.

But farming receives little consideration at the news level and occupies precious little of the consumer's think-tank except when price rises are announced. Yet, according to the consumer price index, 25% of consumer income is spent on food.

Gold — by contrast — hits the headlines almost every day. But this year it will raise less than R9 000-million in revenues.

Most of its value added goes to jewellers and other converters in foreign countries, while about half has no value added at all because it is kept in the form of bullion.

Whereas agriculture has a backward multiplier (inputs such as labour, fertiliser and tractors) and a forward multiplier (transport and marketing), gold mining really has only a backward multiplier.

Also, much of mining income is repatriated to neighbouring countries by workers, and dividends are remitted to overseas shareholders.

What is the value added of agriculture? According to the Division of Agricultural and Economic Trends, farmers received 31.1% of the consumer price for the total food basket (all agricultural products bar wine).

This means their gross income translated to R14 206-million at the consumer level.

This year, assuming the

producers' share remains the same, the consumer turnover is estimated at R12 720-million: a lot more than gold.

While agriculture, forestry and fishing contributed only 6% to gross national product in 1982, this figure vastly understates their importance.

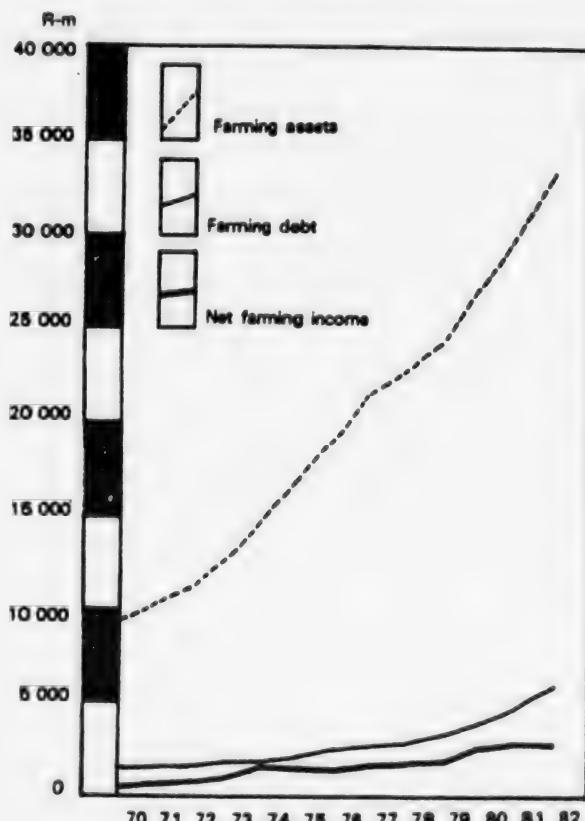
The South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) has estimated that 32.3% of total manufacturing output depends on agriculture for its

inputs and sales.

It found that 31.8% of total workers involved in manufacture depended likewise on agriculture, and 38.7% of retail sales take place in the rural areas.

Agriculture is also important in the foreign-exchange arena. While exports of agricultural commodities contributed R2 000-million in 1982, imports cost only R227-million.

CSO: 3400/398



COMPETITIVENESS OF COASTAL TRADERS IMPROVING

Johannesburg RAND DAILY BUSINESS DAY in English 12 Dec 83 p 15

[Article by George Young]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — The successful blending of cheaper fuels used by ships trading along the South African seaboard is improving the competitive efficiency of sea transport.

The use of cheap fuel has helped to curtail increases in shipping rates and countered competition from road and rail. Sea transport of bulk material has huge cost advantages over road or rail, and SA's coastal services could carry more than 2-million tons of cargo next year.

Development of efficient containers has enhanced the appeal of sea transport, not to mention the quicker delivery between coastal terminals when compared with rail connections which involve a long haul into the interior between ports.

Deep tanks and liquid containers have enabled bulk liquids to go by sea, and about 60 000 tons are carried along the coast every year.

There is a revival in UK coastal shipping in spite of price-cutting by road and rail, and a similar pattern is developing in SA. If the coastal trade grows, there could be an increase in the national commercial fleet.

The fleet of short-haul ships is modern, and there has been no construction for some time. With many suitable vessels available at almost cost overseas, additional tonnage could be acquired promptly.

In terms of cost a ton, sea transport is cheaper than road or rail. The only serious disadvantage is in the container process where delay occurs at terminals.

Sea transport requires no maintenance of highways, and cargo is carried for at about a tenth the transport cost of equivalent goods by land.

Sea traffic has for decades been subject to often unfair competition from the State, but much of this has been reduced.

CSO: 3400/398

OFFSHORE OIL SEARCH TO BE EXTENDED TO TRANSKEI-NATAL COAST

Port Elizabeth EVENING POST in English 25 Nov 83 p 10

[Text]

South Africa's off-shore search for oil will not be extended to the Transkei-Natal coast — as initially hinted

This was made quite clear last night by the public relations manager of Soekor, Mr Mike Leibrandt, who said the state-backed oil probe would continue off the Southern Cape coast

Mr Leibrandt said the American rig Sedco K was busy at a site south-east of Mossel Bay and the R80 million semi-submersible Actinia was concentrating in the area off Plettenberg Bay . . . "fairly near the spot where the drilling ship Glomar Sirte

found gas nearly 15 years ago"

The Actinia drilled a couple of test holes off the Natal-Transkei coast on its way out to the Mossel Bay region a few years ago.

At the time, it was thought that Soekor may divert its attention to this area and officials of the oil exploratory body even went on record as having said "it's a possibility."

Mr Leibrandt, however, has now put paid to any hopes or dreams.

He said the information obtained by the Actinia in its test indicated that it would not be a worthwhile proposition to station a rig off the east coast

Soekor has spent R300 million on the off-shore search and has drilled 56 exploratory wells in the South African seabed.

Information from the organisation indicates that 26 of the exploratory wells have been "dry" while traces of oil and gas have been found in another 25.

Soekor officials have listed five of the exploratory wells — all in the Plettenberg Bay-Mossel Bay area — as "very promising".

The Sedco K made an "exciting" find last September — a hole that was estimated to have a daily yield of 3.2 million cubic feet of gas and 900 barrels of light oil.

CSO: 3400/398

GLOOMY OUTLOOK FOR COAL EXPORT INDUSTRY REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 5 Dec 83 p 12M

[Article by Duncan Collings]

[Text]

South Africa's coal export industry remains in the doldrums despite the world economy taking the first steps out of recession and mineral exports showing signs of recovering.

The Star's financial correspondent, Geoffrey Murray reports from Tokyo that Japan's largest steam coal importer has announced an agreement to cut its imports from South Africa by 40 percent in fiscal 1984.

A spokesman for the Electric Power Development Company said South African exporters accepted the reduction on the understanding it was in line with the sacrifices made by others.

The Japanese company has said it will cut imports from Australia's newly developed Blair Athol mine in Queensland by 40 percent.

An EPDC mission will soon visit other major suppliers, particularly China and the United States, to arrange similar reductions.

Exports of thermal (power station) and coking (steel making) coal have fallen, the latter because the world steel industry is working at significantly less than capacity.

After the various oil crises of the 1970s, South Africa's vast coal reserves seemed set to rival gold as the country's most important mined export. The giant Richards Bay terminal and its extensions were planned to take advantage of this "black gold".

Not only was South African coal in demand for the hungry world's steel mills, but country after country announced programmes of converting oil-fired electricity generating facilities into coal burning operations.

Now the picture has changed dramatically.

With the glut in world oil supplies many of the decisions to convert oil-burning power stations were reversed or delayed, and offtake by the world steel industry slumped.

According to Mr Alan Sealey, chairman of the Rand Mines coal producers, Welgedacht Exploration and Witbank Colliery, the increasing number of nuclear power stations being commissioned has reduced the demand from coal-fired stations.

"They are tending to use nuclear fuelled power stations to meet the countries' base loads and only using coal fired stations to meet peak demand," he told The Star.

The industry has to a great extent been protected by contracts agreed to and signed before the latest world depression, and coal exports have held up well.

But with many of these contracts coming up for renewal, the gloom is spreading.

Mr Sealey forecast in Witbank's and Welgedacht's annual reports last month that the worst was still to come.

This morning, having just returned from a trip overseas, he said there was nothing to change this view.

He said in Welgedacht's annual report that the past year saw intense competition among South African coal exporters in a limited market.

This and increased availability of coal from Australia and Poland resulted in substantial downward pressure on prices.

No material change could be expected this year, and supply would continue to exceed demand. While world-wide growth remained slow it would be some time before demand for coal reached the level of available supplies.

Mr Sealey said that only a substantial, sustained improvement in the world economy would materially increase energy consumption.

The slump is placing increasing pressure on the domestic price. During the years of almost unlimited export demand at very profitable prices, local producers were able to accept local coal price increases substantially below the inflation rate.

But that has changed, and producers are now finding that their export and local prices are becoming uneconomic. They are looking to the local market for increased revenue.

In view of the government's anti-inflation drive they are unlikely to receive a very receptive response to any application for a coal price increase in excess of inflation.

CSO: 3400/398

SASOL RIGHTS ISSUE SELL-OUT REPORTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 12 Dec 83 p 1

[Article by Brendan Ryan]

[Text]

SASOL's huge rights issue, which is the largest held in South Africa, has been outstandingly successful.

At the close of business on Saturday morning, R529.5m, or 97%, of the R545m to be subscribed from private sector shareholders had been received.

This leaves about R15.5m to come in through postal acceptances, which will be received until 4.30pm on Wednesday, December 21.

"It looks as if there will be a complete take-up of the Sasol rights offer. We have never known such a response on the closing date and the first day after a rights offer," said a spokesman for Finansbank, financial advisers to Sasol.

"We did not expect that this amount of cash would come in directly. We thought that many of the institutions would post their acceptances of the rights offer but very few in fact did."

The advantage to the institutions of posting the cheques would be a saving of interest on the money up to the time when Sasol banks the cheque.

Many institutions were expected to post their acceptances late on Friday afternoon, meaning the cheques could not be received and banked until early this week.

However, the majority decided not to take any chances on the postal services and sent their acceptances in directly.

From the time the rights issue opened on November 25 until late Friday afternoon, a total of R364.388m had been received.

There was a last minute rush just before the offer closed on Friday and this brought in another R125.924m.

Institutions and large investors put their applications in during the last 10 minutes so the cheques could not be banked that day. Banking them on Saturday morning meant they kept a day's interest they would otherwise have lost.

Another R39.2m came through in postal acceptances on Saturday morning.

The reason for the Sasol rights offer is Sasol Ltd's acquisition of Sasol Two from Government agencies — the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), Kondil and SOF.

In terms of Sasol's agreement with these agencies, the loans which financed the construction of Sasol Two must be repaid on acquisition by Sasol Ltd.

The total price for the sale of Sasol Two to Sasol Ltd was agreed at R2.620bn.

The proceeds of the issue will cover part of the outstanding loans. Sasol is providing another R350m in

cash out of its resources and the remaining R1.4bn will be paid back over five years out of cash flow.

The total value of the rights issue is R778m. The IDC holds 30% of Sasol but the R233m it subscribes will be paid back to it as part of the purchase price.

The offer documents for the rights issue were posted to shareholders on November 25.

A number of shareholders have complained to Sasol that they did not receive the documents in good time to accept the rights offer.

Delays may have been caused by the massive pressures on the postal system in the build-up to Christmas.

The original Sasol offer document said acceptances through the post, in order to be valid, had to be

date-stamped December 9, the closing date for the rights issue.

However, postal applications will now be accepted until December 21 regardless of when they were posted to overcome the problems experienced by the shareholders who received their offer documents late.

The rights issue is not expected to dilute the Sasol group's earnings a share in the current financial year.

Sasol's directors estimate earnings for the year to end-June 1984 at 72c a share, while the final dividend is estimated at 18c to make a total of 32c for the year.

Sasol has already declared a 14c interim.

Sasol paid dividends totalling 28c a share from earnings of 61.9c a share in the year to end-June 1983.

CSO: 3400/398

RAPID GROWTH OF NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS EXAMINED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Dec 83 p 13

[Article by Phillip Van Niekerk]

[Text]

A GIANT in the mining industry has woken up.

That was the warning sounded by the National Union of Mineworkers — the country's largest and fastest-growing black trade union — at their second annual congress on Saturday night.

After little more than a year in existence, the union's membership has climbed to 55 000. That represents the first significant unionisation of black workers in South Africa's key economic sector in recent times.

The formation of the NUM followed closely the strikes, riots and deaths on a number of mines in June last year — the worst unrest in the industry since 1946.

The jarring effect of those strikes — which exposed the inadequate channels of communication between mine management and workers — belatedly propelled the mining industry into the country's new era of labour relations.

On June 9 this year, the NUM became the first emerging union to be recognised by the Chamber of Mines and was granted wage bargaining rights on mines where it has majority support in specific work categories.

To date the NUM is the only one. A year ago it was widely predicted that opening the mines up to black unionisation would result in the formation of a number of unions, all jockeying for worker support.

While black miner's unions have since mushroomed in name, the NUM seems to be up front alone. The others have either fallen away or are yet to really emerge.

The kingpin in the rise of the NUM has been its general secretary, 31-year-old Mr Cyril Ramaphosa.

Before entering trade unionism in 1981 via the Cusa law unit, Mr Ramaphosa was detained without trial twice while studying at Turfloop University. In 1974 he was held for 11 months after being involved in a pro-Frelimo rally, and in 1976 he was held for six months during the Soweto unrest.

"But I am not bitter," says Mr Ramaphosa, who adds that he was interrogated for four months solid in 1974. "I feel sorry for the people who did that to me. They won't ever stop the tide of black people fighting for their rights."

At Saturday's all-night congress, the thousand-odd delegates who packed the Phillip Smith Community Hall in the Thobaung township outside Welkom expressed their admiration by repeatedly breaking into song: "Rama-Ramaphosa."

Directed by Mr Ramaphosa, the NUM stands out as the current trade union success story.

But it still has a tough road ahead. Its 55 000 membership is only about a tenth of the black workforce in the mining industry. It also has to deal with what is probably

the best-organised employer organisation in the country, the Chamber of Mines.

And the very fact that the NUM has mobilised so rapidly is a problem in itself.

South African history is littered with unions whose spectacular rise ended in collapse when they grew too fast and were unable to consolidate their positions.

According to Mr Ramaphosa, the union's main priority in the year ahead is precisely to consolidate its strength; to develop organisation at the pit-face before expanding further.

So far the NUM's major area of impact has not been in mobilising black worker muscle, but in fighting legal battles.

In fact, the union has yet to engage in a major strike other than the half-hour work stoppage which followed the Hlobane coal mine disaster.

But the legal strategy is having a real effect in one important area: safety conditions on the mines.

Mining is a hazardous occupation and judging by the feelings of the mineworkers present on Saturday night, safety is closer to their hearts than any other aspect of their working lives.

At the conference, there was a constant reminder of this. The front of the hall was filled with men in wheelchairs — miners with damaged spines and limbs — from the nearby Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital.

In the past, reports of miners' deaths in rockfalls or gas explosions went by virtually unquestioned. The death of 67 miners in a methane blast at Hlobane in September changed that.

Shortly after the disaster the NUM made serious allegations about the cause of the blast. For the first time an organisation acting specifically in the interests of black workers had challenged mine management and Government's accounts of such events.

The NUM, armed with their own experts, are to give evidence at the Hlobane inquiry early next year.

And next week they will be represented at the inquiry into the death of six miners at Anglo American's Western Deep Levels mine. Workers have alleged that the six, who died from asphyxiation, were ordered to enter an area which had been sealed off because of a fire in the mine.

The safety rights of miners were also highlighted at Gold Fields' West Driefontein mine, where 17 workers were fired after refusing to work in an area they considered unsafe.

An inquiry — requested by the NUM in terms of an almost forgotten section of the Mines and Works Act — found the area to be safe.

At a subsequent industrial court case the NUM's legal team argued that whether or not the area was safe, management — who was accused of behaving in a "Victorian" manner towards employees — had not taken adequate steps to prove to the workers it was safe.

The court has temporarily reinstated the workers. On the basis of this judgement, the NUM has advised their members that they have the right to refuse to work when they consider conditions to be dangerous.

The NUM has also called on the Minister of Mineral

and Energy Affairs to establish a commission to investigate safety on the mines and has called on the Chamber of Mines to negotiate safety agreements.

By setting up safety stewards in the mines, the union is moving the safety issue away from the courts back into the mines.

The NUM's other important area of concern is wages — the issue which sparked the 1982 strikes. Here high demands are likely to be made at next year's round of negotiations.

Mr Ramaphosa points out that miners in other countries are among the highest paid workers: "Their working conditions are the harshest, so their remuneration ought to be a lot higher."

It is perhaps because of the tough working conditions that miners — whether in Poland, England or Australia — are among the most militant trade unionists.

But how far, for the NUM, does this militancy extend beyond issues such as working conditions and wages to opposing the Government politically from the vantage of such a strategic industry?

Mr Ramaphosa believes it is premature to talk of tackling the broader political issues until worker organisation in the mines has been developed and consolidated.

Still, numerous political issues inevitably touch on the shopfloor. The NUM has taken a stand against job reservation, the last vestiges of which remain in the mining industry.

And the conference made a call on the Government to change its "racist policies"

CSO: 3400/398

O'KIEP COPPER ANNOUNCES AUSTERITY MEASURES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Dec 83 p 21

[Text]

CAPE TOWN.—O'Kiep Copper Company yesterday announced a series of austerity moves intended to reduce costs and minimise the outflow of cash, as the depressed worldwide copper markets continue to cause the company to sustain significant losses.

The general manager, Mr T P Philip, said mine development will be suspended immediately at the Hoits Mine and will be severely curtailed at the Spektakel and Carolusberg Deep mines.

Mine production from Hoits and Spektakel will continue at current rates until the developed reserves have been exhausted, which is expected to take place in April and December, 1984, respectively, while the rate of mine production previously planned for 1984 from the Carolusberg Deep mine will be reduced but will exceed 1983 levels.

Due to the availability

of developed reserves in the Carolusberg Deep mine, even with the Carolusberg revision the tonnage of copper produced by the company in 1984 will still approximate that produced in 1983.

O'Kiep said that the labour force of 3 000 would be reduced to 2 000 by mid-1984, and to 1 500 by year-end 1984. Both support staff and mine production workers will be affected and all employees will receive special separation levels, the company noted, was scheduled to have taken place a year hence under long-term mine planning.

At current metal prices and with the indicated austerity measures in place, the company's existing lines of credit will be exhausted early in the first principle with its lenders to increase its credit line and to reschedule the repayment of its outstanding borrowings.
—Sapa.

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VALARD BUYS VICKERS OPERATIONS IN SA

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 2 Dec 83 p 3

[Article by Mike Jensen]

[Text]

VALARD has bought Vickers SA from Vickers UK as part of its expanding light engineering operations.

A Johannesburg Stock Exchange listing will be sought when consolidation is complete.

Vickers SA, which has a net asset value of R2.34m, was sold to Valard by Vickers UK, the Rolls-Royce car, defence and engineering group, as part of its restructuring and divestment programme in Southern Africa.

Valard is owned by three Johannesburg businessmen — Mr David Makins, Mr Stephen Connelly and Mr Simon Nash — who broke away from Malbak's light engineering group to form their own company.

Having bought Isando Electrical Industries, which had lost R2m, they were able to turn it around in three months. In March Hypower Pumps was formed and secured the profitable Lowara agency from Malbak.

After discovering that Vickers UK was ready to shed some subsidiaries Valard last week bought

Vickers SA for an undisclosed sum.

Vickers SA subsidiaries included in the deal were:

- Ernest-Lowe, suppliers of hydraulic equipment to the mining industry;
- Vickers Instruments, distributors of biophysical and geophysical equipment;
- Michell Bearings, one of the only two SA white metal bearing manufacturers;

● Ace Patternmakers and Foundry. Mr Stephen Connelly says this gives Valard a projected turnover of about R17m a year on assets of R10m.

"We are not interested in a business which requires huge capital investment and we are aiming for each of our products to have its own distinct image."

"Although many engineering companies have been hit by the recession there is no reason why modest profits should not be made at this stage. We don't expect any upturn for another year at least, which gives us a breathing space to consolidate. Once our operations have been fully bedded down we will go for a listing on the JSE."

PLANT USE, EQUIPMENT DATA QUESTIONED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Dec 83 p 3

[Article by Harold Fridjhon]

[Text]

USE of plant and equipment in industry appears to be holding at a remarkably high level in spite of the depth and severity of the current recession.

According to latest figures from the Central Statistical Services, industry as a whole used 85,1% of total capacity in August 1983, compared with 86,7% in August last year, and 89,9% for the year 1981.

This means that the drop in plant usage from a boom year to a deep recession period is only 5,6%, which appears to be only a slight decline bearing in mind that economists are forecasting that this year the economy will show a negative growth of somewhere between 3% and 4%.

Usually, 90% is regarded as as full utilisation of plant, so one cannot measure the present position against 100%.

One can only compare it to previous figures and these appear to suggest that either the recession is not biting as deeply as most people think — or as profit and loss accounts reflect — or that the statistical services are not receiving accurate replies to questionnaires.

Manufacturers of food say their factories were used to 85,9% of capacity in August, compared with 87,7% in August 1982, and 87,2% in 1981. This appears to be a reasonable decline because the physical volume of production of food has maintained a fairly consistent level.

But when it comes to the textile and clothing industries, the figures do not ring true. While the physical volume

of output of these industries has dropped from a peak index of 175,4 in January 1981 — 161,8 for the year as a whole — to 129,2 in May this year, a decline of 26,4%, there is not nearly as great a fall-off in plant utilisation.

Textile plant usage in August 1983 was 84,9%, against 84,6% in August last year and 91,6 in 1981.

In the clothing industry, the latest figures show that 87,6% of plant was used in August, against 90,2% in August 1982 and 92,8% in 1981.

Perhaps the figure which looks distinctly skew is that for industrial chemicals, which includes fertiliser.

In 1981, 93,7% of plant capacity was used. This figure dropped to 88,7% of capacity in August 1982, and to 83,7% in August this year.

The plant usage figures are more difficult to reconcile when compared with indices published by the Reserve Bank's Quarterly Bulletin.

In 1981, producers of durable goods used 89,1% of capacity. The index of new orders was 147,3. The index of unfilled orders was 84,3 and the sales index was 131,7.

The latest comparable figures are: capacity used 82,4%; new orders 109,6; unfilled orders dropped to 56% and sales were 108,8.

What is so difficult to reconcile is the high usage of plant compared with the very much reduced volume of orders and sales.

If there is a fault, it does not lie with the statistical services, which depend on returns from industry.

IMPACT OF CORROSION ON INDUSTRY ASSESSED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Dec 83 p 15

[Article by Priscilla Whyte]

[Text]

CORROSION may cost industry more than R2bn a year.

The Hot-Dip Galvanising Association says corrosion costs are running at R500m a year directly and up to R1bn indirectly.

Its figure is much less than the R2bn-R4bn of the SA Corrosion Institute but, whichever estimate is used, the corrosive damage to plant and capital equipment is substantial.

The association claims that if proper anti-corrosion measures were carried out about R250m a year could be saved.

A rule-of-thumb method of estimating loss by corrosion is 2%-4% of the gross national product.

Mr Walter Barnett, president of the institute, says technology in this sector has become highly sophisticated and Koeberg nuclear power station's preventative measures are, for example, unparalleled in the world.

He adds that protection puts up the cost of steel on the project by about 60%. The eventual bill for failing to apply adequate protection would result, however, in maintenance amounting to three times the initial outlay.

This was seen recently in a platinum mine. Some steel in the 1 000m shaft had to be replaced after only five years although its life expectancy was expected to be 12 years.

About 1 000 tons of steel in the shaft had been hot-dip galvanised but the pump column was unprotected. The subsequent costs of new piping, labour and lost time, because of the original oversight, were high.

Large portions of the budgets for SATS, Escom, Sasol, chemical plants, mines and paper mills are allocated to corrosion protection.

Mr Barnett says the motor industry, with certain exceptions, is lagging behind the rest of the world in corrosion protection.

He adds, however, that there is

a danger of over-protection. Coating a steel structure with hot-dip galvanising or special paint could give it a life of 50 years when, for

example, the mine in which it was used had a life of only 20 years.

Mr Denis Twigg, executive director of Hot-Dip, says engineers are often in a dilemma when deciding between three systems of corrosion protection — 3CR12 corrosion steel, painted steel and hot dip galvanised steel products.

In the 60s the first cost of hot-dip galvanised steel was about 30% more than the first cost of blasting and three coats of paint (jobbing as opposed to in-line painting). In the 80s, however, the cost of blasting and painting is up to 50% more than the cost of hot-dip galvanised steel.

The cost of 3CR12 corrosion-resistant steel is about twice the cost of hot-dip galvanised structural steel.

Each anti-corrosion method has its specialised applications.

CSO: 3400/398

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

DURBAN CONTAINER TERMINAL--The Durban harbour container terminal handled a record number of containers last month, the most in one month since the terminal opened in 1977. Mr Reuel Botha, container terminal manager, said while this was "very good news indeed," he certainly did not want to make any predictions concerning an upswing in shipping. However, figures presented indicate that the number of containers passing through the terminal have risen steadily from January when only 21 460 were handled--20 percent down on the number for the same month of the previous year. The highest number of containers previously recorded was in July 1981 when 32 262 containers were handled. However, Mr Botha said that last month 37 315 were handled, 1 053 more than the July 1981 figure. The Port manager, Mr Lucas Potgieter, said a possible reason for this steady increase could be that a number of independent lines that previously dealt in conventional breakbulk trade were now turning to containerisation. "With the downswing in the economy, many independent lines went away with the drop in freight rates. I believe that, as a saving measure, many lines have been forced to change from breakbulk to containers." He added that Durban harbour was historically an unpredictable port and while the news was very heartening, containerisation was usually out of line with most other market forces. [Text] [Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 5 Dec 83 p 5]

SUNFLOWER FARMING--Sunflower farmers are in fear of being ploughed under by the thousands of maize farmers switching to sunflowers. At an oil seeds congress held by the SA Agricultural Union, the chairman of the SAAU oil seeds committee, Mr Daan Bosman, said the limitation of maize plantings to be introduced by the Maize Board would mean that at least a million hectares had to be put under alternative crops. Sunflowers were the obvious choice as maize farmers could use the equipment they already had. At present about 300 000 ha was under sunflowers. This should produce about 400 000 t of sunflower seed, depending on the rainfall. The Oil Seeds Control Board and the oil pressing and margarine industries could take a crop of up to 500 000 t, but an exceptional crop of 600 000 t was expected next market season. Dr Pieter Gouws, general manager of the National Maize Producers Organisation, said their fears were unfounded. Only a small part of the maize fields would be given over to sunflowers. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 3 Dec 83 p 2]

UREA FERTILIZER SWOP--The last of the urea fertilizer obtained in a swop for maize in 1982 was now being made available to farmers at a considerable saving, Mr Hennie Nel, general manager of the Maize Board, said in Pretoria yesterday. The statement said the Minister of Industries, Commerce and Tourism, Dr Dawie de Villers, had given the Board the go-ahead to dispose of the 56 000 tons of urea left over from the initial 200 000 tons imported in 1982. Although the fertilizer would not be distributed before January 1, 1984, Mr Nel said that farmers who placed their orders and paid before the end of December would "profit the most." The urea would be available to Board agents at R317,97 per ton (Sasolburg). After December, added Mr Nel, "the price will escalate monthly because of the Board's additional financing and storage costs."-- Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Dec 83 p 12]

RICHARDS BAY CHEMICAL STORAGE--Freight Services, AECI and Sentrachem are to develop South Africa's first bulk liquid and chemical storage terminal at Richards Bay at a first-phase cost of R50-million. The partners have established a new company, Richards Bay Bulk Storage, to develop and operate the project, which, says RBBS, could represent an investment of as much as R500-million. But, when questioned by Business Times, both AECI and Sentrachem felt these numbers were on the high side. Freight Services will have 50% of the new company and AECI and Sentrachem 25% each. The facility will be situated on a 40ha site opposite the coal terminal. Neville Organ, chairman of RBBS, said there was increasing resistance to the use of Durban harbour for storage of toxic and flammable chemicals. The proximity of Richards Bay to the Reef had also been important in location. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 1]

DROUGHT HIT GRAIN PRODUCERS--Drought has hit grain producers to the tune of R1 700-million. The latest Kahn & Kahn quarterly report says most recent estimates indicate that South Africa will spend more than R1 000-million importing supplementary supplies of grain. In a normal year South African grain exports have a value of between R500-million and R700-million. Sources interviewed by Business Times this week estimated that imports of maize this year would run to 2-million tons, costing about R500-million. They said they did not know exactly how the "R500-million drought relief" mentioned by the Minister of Finance recently would be apportioned. Kahn & Kahn report that grain sorgum was trading at prices way over the floor price. With the carry-over from 1982's crop, there was probably enough grain on hand to satisfy the 200 000t demand from the malt industry. Dry beans are subject to high international prices because of the US's PIK programme and a severe frost in South America. Local producers were holding back on supplies while waiting for permits resulting in abnormally high consumer prices. Buckwheat, mannaseeds, groundnuts and millet were also highly priced, according to the report. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNADY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 5]

NORTHERN AIRPORT RUNWAY--Louis Trichardt airport, in the Northern Transvaal, is to have a new 1 200m tarred runway and associated facilities such as runway lighting and a radio beacon. Cost of the work is put at R26 000, towards which the Department of Transport will contribute R160 000. The existing

runway will be kept as a taxiway. The mayor, Dr Boyers van Rensburg, said the improvements were necessary because of the town's recent growth and nomination as an industrialist growthpoint. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 30 Nov 83 p 14]

CSIR'S TRIBOLOGY DIVISION--The National Mechanical Engineering Research Institute of the CSIR has established a tribology division. Tribology is concerned with friction and lubrication between moving surfaces. As most moving parts involve liquid or solid lubrication, this subject is of major importance, as is consideration of associated structural materials. Mr J. Davies has been appointed head of the new division which has a brief to provide tribology support for industry in South Africa. The work may involve either recommendations on site, or laboratory studies to overcome problems. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 1 Dec 83 p 12]

TAIWAN'S MICRO CARS--Owners of Micro cars--a Taiwanese import assembled in South Africa and sold for about R3 000--have been warned by the Bureau of Standards that some of these vehicles may not comply with SA standards. One major importer of the vehicles is thought to be Uniqmark of Randburg, said to have imported and assembled nearly 100 of the Micros. It is smaller than a Mini, with a mass of around 300 kg and a 180cc engine. Although it is suitable for recreational, off-road purposes, the Bureau of Standards is concerned about the braking system, mirrors, safety belts and some controls. Dealers and owners should contact the SABS to test the cars against the Compulsory Vehicle Standards. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Dec 83 p 3]

OSHKOSH CEASES PRODUCTION--Oshkosh Africa has ceased production of Oshkosh trucks in South Africa. The company says the uniqueness of the Caterpillar-powered engine enabled Oshkosh vehicles to fill a special niche in the South African market. "That situation, however, no longer prevails and the company will be competing with the same basic unit as other manufacturers. In the circumstances the company has decided to withdraw from the market." Barlow's tractor division will continue to provide spares, warranty protection and back-up service. Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 12 Dec 83 p 20]

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FROM JAPAN--All its P&H construction equipment will in future come from Japan, Camec, the mechanical handling specialist in the listed Bonuskor Group, has announced in Johannesburg. This follows the decision by Harnischfeger of the US to shift production of all its construction equipment to Kobe Steel of Japan as part of a programme of rationalisation. Camec is the franchise holder for Harnischfeger P&H equipment in South Africa, and is the market leader with a wide range of mobile hydraulic cranes. The agreement provides for joint funding of research and development between Harnischfeger and Kobe Steel, the use of Kobe components in current P&H models and the continuation of the Corporation as marketing agent for all P&H construction equipment sold outside Japan. P&H will continue to manufacture spares in its American plants until such time as Kobe Steel/Kobelco comes on stream. While its mining, materials handling and systems divisions

will continue to operate from America, Kobe Steel--a 10 percent shareholder who has been building P&H equipment under licence for 25 years--will now handle the total construction activity. [Text] [Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 23 Nov 83 p 4]

JAPANESE PNEUMATIC TOOLS--South Africa is now the Japanese Uryu Seisaku pneumatic tool giant's fourth largest market outside Japan, the company's worldwide general manager responsible for exports, Mr Koichi Okimi, said during a visit here. He was a guest of Uryu's sole agent on the African continent, Sapco. Uryu, which is Osaka-based, is Japan's leader in the industrial pneumatic tool field, with a 30 percent market share overall. Mr Okimi, who spends about three months each year travelling and has visited more than 30 countries, described the South African market as "an exciting place to be in business." "The possibilities here are virtually limitless as your industries are rapidly becoming more sophisticated. "Once the economy begins to pick up and the local automotive and other industries begin expansion programmes again, we will be expecting big things from your country," Mr Okimi said. He pointed out that South Africa was Uryu's fourth largest export market worldwide--behind the USA, Korea and Italy. [Text] [Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 30 Nov 83 p 6]

SCOTTISH VALVE PLANT--A South African valve company has bought an entire butterfly valve manufacturing plant from a Scottish company and "transplanted" it into its Johannesburg factory. As a result, G.C. Baars has embarked on the local manufacture of high quality Compact butterfly valves for the mining, chemical and agricultural industries. "Since 1970, G.C. Baars has represented Glenfield & Kennedy of Scotland in South Africa," said Mr Geoff Baars, managing director of Baars. "When it decided to close down this section of its factory, we successfully bid for the plant in its entirety and concluded a licensing agreement." Patterns, moulds, machinery, jigs and tools were shipped to South Africa and installed in Baars' Malvern East facility where production of the Compact butterfly valves started recently. The butterfly valves being manufactured range in size from 50 mm to 300 mm. They are suitable for a wide spread of applications and can cope with air, gas and fluids such as water, mineral oils, dilute acids and alkaline solutions, at pressures of up to 1 600 k Pa, and at temperatures between minus 15 degrees and 105 degrees. Manufactured in accordance with the British specification BS 5155 and American standards MSS SP677 and API 609, the valves are readily interchangeable with any similar American or British units. "Local content of the valves is close to 100 percent," said Mr Baars, "with castings, rubber moulding and nylon coating produced locally." He claims that his locally produced valves are of as good, if not better, than those formerly imported. [Text] [Johannesburg MINING WEEK in English 30 Nov 83 p 6]

CSO: 3400/398

BRIEFS

DRAFT CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED--The interim executive committee of the newly formed Press Association of Zambia [PAZA] will next week present a draft constitution to the minister of information and broadcasting services for consideration as a step toward legislation to support its creation. Speaking on Television Zambia' Sunday interview program last night, PAZA Chairman Komani Kachinga said the establishment of PAZA by an act of parliament was the immediate task of his executive. It was for that reason that the association wanted the ministry responsible for press matters to know the aims and objectives of the association, which was formed last week. Mr Kachinga, who is editor in chief of the ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, said he was optimistic that the Information Ministry would consider his association's request for recognition through an act of parliament favorably, as had been the case with relevant ministries for other professional groups. [Text] [MB200758 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Dec 83]

GRANTS FROM JAPAN--Zambia and Japan today signed two grant agreements under which Zambia will receive rice and fertilizer worth 3.5 million kwacha. The foreign affairs minister, Professor Lamech Goma, signed on behalf of Zambia, while the Japanese ambassador to Zambia, Mr Eiji Seki, signed on behalf of his country. The Japanese rice is valued at 2.9 million kwacha, with an addition of 1.1 million kwacha for freight, while the fertilizer is valued at 2.4 million kwacha, including freight. Since 1981 the total Japanese grant aid to Zambia, including the two signed today, amounts to 50.9 million kwacha for the supply of food products, agriculture transport vehicles, machinery, chemicals, the new pediatric wing at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, and the School of Veterinary Services of the University of Zambia. [Text] [MB180620 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Dec 83]

CSO: 3400/419

MUGABE DENIES ALLEGED ATROCITIES BY FIFTH BRIGADE

Harare THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] THE Government believes that Western observers have exaggerated the alleged atrocities on civilians by Five Brigade during operations against dissidents in some parts of Matabeleland, the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, has said.

In an interview with Aquino Braganza, director of the Centre of African Studies at Maputo's Eduardo Mondlane University, and Alves Gomes of Tempo magazine, published on Friday, Cde Mugabe said the brigade had been criticised for being ruthless and for having violated human rights.

"Of course we have established a committee which is inquiring into alleged atrocities. But we believe there is a lot of exaggeration. Maybe there have been incidents which went beyond our control--incidents which happen in a situation of war."

But, he said, since its deployment in some parts of Matabeleland, the brigade has become "so friendly with the people and the people so friendly with the brigade that when we withdrew them the people wanted them back because the dissidents started operating again. And we had to redeploy the brigade in that particular area".

He said the Five Brigade was made up mainly of former Zanla elements and 300 ex-Zipra men.

"They were trained by the Koreans because we wanted one arm of the army to have a political orientation which stems from our philosophy as Zanu (PF).

"So when we deployed them in parts of Matabeleland North, their approach was not just to use the gun. It was also political as was their approach during the war. You don't just act against the dissident. You also act with the population so that they can support the Government."

Cde Mugabe said the recent local government election victories by Zanu (PF) in Matabeleland destroyed the myth that there were two ethnically based parties in Matabeleland.

The Government did not leave things to the Five Brigade but sent a number of ministers to all parts of Matabeleland to talk to the people and explain what the Government stood for and that although the Government was mainly Zanu (PF), it also included Zapu.

Popular

"It's a national government, with national interests, and so people should feel the Government to be their government--a popular one."

After being told that the Government would provide more schools, health services, roads, water and land, the people started to see the disadvantages of following Zapu and the advantages of following Zanu.

"We told them they were not compelled, but we wanted them to join Zanu (PF)."

On the future of minority parties in Zimbabwe, Cde Mugabe said: "As we began we were committed to a one-party state, but we recognised that the first years had to be years of togetherness in consolidating our independence and that we had to accept the Constitution which came out of Lancaster House. We accommodated even the anti-democratic forces of Ian Smith and Muzorewa."

Since independence many parties who had fought the elections had become extinct. "We don't ban them. The support the people have given to Zanu (PF) has forced them to wipe themselves out. So we had to ensure a base of national unity with all the forces that agreed with us that independence must be safeguarded.

"Having done that, we must proceed a step further and organise our party and mass organisations as much as possible. We must have viable party structures throughout the country--province by province, district by district and village by village. And this is what we are doing."

CSO: 3400/367

MINISTER MANGWENDE: IF TALKS FAIL, USE GUNS TO OUST SA

Harare THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] IF the use of diplomacy to achieve Namibian independence fails, South Africa must be forced militarily out of both Angola and Namibia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Witness Mangwende, said last night.

Interviewed on the ZTV programme, The Nation, Cde Mangwende said it did not pay to continue talking any longer "we must physically face the enemy", as happened in Zimbabwe.

"The time is fast approaching where we must take this decision. The international community cannot afford to be held to ransom by South Africa--in the end the international community must take up arms and force South Africa out of Namibia.

"South Africa is prevaricating giving one excuse after another because it is not ready to implement UN Resolution 435 and the United Nations plan," said Cde Mangwende.

He said the Frontline States were "all at our wits' end" on what to do to achieve independence for Namibia. The UN Security Council passed a resolution giving South Africa three months up to the end of December to comply with Resolution 435.

Failure to do this "will invoke the UN Charter's Chapter Seven and all rules relevant to ensuring that international peace and security is maintained".

Asked whether this could not be vetoed by Western members of the Security Council, Cde Mangwende said this was possible but this would not deter non-aligned countries.

Asked to comment on a suggestion last week by the Nigerian President Shehu Shagari that Cuban troops in Angola should be replaced with a multinational peace-keeping force, Cde Mangwende said the suggested defeated the whole process of "our rejection of the linkage policy".

"We do not believe that there is any relationship at all between the presence of Cuban forces in Angola and the independence of Namibia.

"We should all be concerned that South Africa is presently occupying a sovereign state and violating the territorial integrity of Angola. South Africa must be made to move out of Angola and out of Namibia and then we begin talking sense," said Cde Mangwende.

Other Frontline States had been "infuriated" with this latest development. The recent Kadoma Declaration was the beginning of a counter-offensive information strategy against South Africa.

Cde Mangwende said Zimbabwe would have a full-time High Commissioner in London "fairly soon". Zimbabwe had 23 missions abroad and if the number reached 30, "it may not be necessary to go beyond that".

CSO: 3400/367

POLITICAL PARTIES' TENDENCY TO ONE PARTY STATE DISCUSSED

Harare THE HERALD in English 5 Dec 83 p 7

[Article by Dr Masipula Sithole]

[Text]

SOME want a one-party state, others are opposed to it, and those who become cynical about politics dismiss the whole debate by saying that whether you have one or many parties in the Third World "it's the same difference": someone is always plotting within or without the party.

There has been much talk about the one-party state since independence. Among the more panicky the suggestion is that there is in the land a drive towards institutionalising a one-party state before the 1985 general election, while those who seem more knowledgeable do not see such an event, at least not before the life of the present Parliament expires.

Suggestions are that many in the echelons of the ruling party seem to favour the one-party state, while opposition parties appear strongly opposed to such a development.

In this article I do not seek to analyse the merits and demerits of the one-party state but rather to question whether the debate taking place between the opposition parties and the ruling party is a genuine one.

The argument in this article is that, there has been a tendency towards the one-party state within all political parties in this country, and as such the propensity and attraction for a one-party state was likely in the event any of the existing parties won the election in 1980. There is a one-man tendency in Zimbabwe political parties. This tendency makes the one-party state likely regardless of the party in power.

Zapu has had one and the same leader since its formation in 1961. In fact, since Zapu was successor to the NDP, which was successor to the ANC of 1957, it can be correctly argued that Zapu has had the same leader for the past 28 years.

The most serious challenge to Zapu occurred in 1963 when several leading members of its national executive sought to remove Dr Nkomo from the presidency. Dr

Nkomo reacted sharply and with characteristic decision by suspending his challengers from the party. Subsequently, those suspended formed Zanu which physically fought for survival against the wrath of Zapu, then nicknamed PCC. Dr Nkomo has kept that leadership to this day and there is no end in sight. Not because no one in Zapu has wanted the leadership while Dr Nkomo was in detention, or during the years in exile, or since independence, but because he has defended his leadership by all stratagems.

The Zanu-Zanu (PF) debate, if we should call it that, is a bit tricky and not quite as neat. Yet the same phenomenon is distinctly observable.

The Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole's leadership of Zanu has survived for 20 years because he has refused to be superseded by his challengers. He has clung to the leadership of Zanu in the same way Dr Nkomo jealously protected his leadership of Zapu when Mr Sithole himself challenged it.

Then there is the Muzorewa story. Once formed only as a temporary measure (to last

the duration of the Pearce Commission), the African National Council (now UANC) was to survive to this day under the same leadership. Bishop Muzorewa has held on the reins of the UANC not because no one has "expressed interest" in the leadership in the 12 years since the inception of the party in 1971. He "refused" with his party when Dr Nkomo attempted to take it over after the failure of the Victoria Falls Bridge "talks about talks" in 1975. And in 1979 Mr James Chikerema was forced out of the UANC when he became a serious contender.

Zanu (PF) has not been immune from similar tendencies. It has had the one and same leader since Cde Mugabe officially took over the party in exile in 1977. He remains leader. Not that others have not "expressed interest" over the last seven years as the 1977 detentions in Mozambique demonstrate.

We are not going to examine this tendency in other very minor parties most of which are now defunct. However, mention should be made also with regards to the experience of the Rhodesian Front for, indeed, there was a one-party tendency in the RF as well. Once he assumed leadership in 1964 Ian Smith never let go. Those who challenged him from either the right or the left of the RF were flushed out. Twelve ultra-rightists were forced out of the RF in 1977. And, after failing to convince the RF to change its perception of the changed situation in the country, several RF members left that party to become independents after independence.

This then is the record. Why must we now conclude that any of them when in power will behave differently and

abandon the exercise of actual State power to other parties when they have found it extremely difficult to relinquish ordinary party leadership to others who had expressed interest? Certainly the tendency would be towards insulating one's power from possible contenders. This has been the pattern in the past by the same personalities even when stakes were much smaller.

To quote Muzorewa who "willingly" relinquished State power after six months as an example that State power can be relinquished willingly would be unkind. Were he in control of actual State power he would not abandon it, at least not willingly.

To make the argument such as the one I have tried to make should not suggest preference for a one-party state. I have reservations about the "miracles" of such a political arrangement, unless under specific conditions. If the one-party should insulate too many bad eggs in power the country has had it.

In any event, what I am disputing in this article is whether one should accept an argument for the multi-party state from those who would undermine the very multi-party state once on the other side of the power equation. The record suggests that we should be careful. We may be looking at one-party wolves in multi-party clothing.

Parties that are today against the one-party state do so not so much from grounds of principle as it is tactics. Once in power they may likewise attempt to insulate that power through the device of the one-party state. And, lacking the confidence of the present ruling party, they are likely to take such a step much more expeditiously. Those opposed to the one-party

state because they really believe in the multi-party state principle have a cause, but it is certainly not the same cause for which the others fight.

Current objections by opposition parties only manifest fear that a one-party state will insulate them out of power; it is not objection based on commitment to cherish principle. Those opposed to the one-party state on questions of principle should be aware that the man who rode on the back of a tiger because he feared a lion ended up in its stomach.

Until the one-man leaders in our political parties have begun to set an example by retiring in favour of new blood within their own parties, we are in fact looking at lions and tigers on the question of love for the one-party state. Again the cynical will say: "Lions or tigers, it's the same difference."

In conclusion therefore, the point I am stressing is that there is an intra-party syndrome in all political parties in our society which suggests that authority or leaders should not be challenged. Put differently, leaders do not want to be challenged.

This syndrome translates into one-party authoritarianism in relations between parties. Like the president of a party who fights ferociously to maintain his leadership under siege, a party once in power becomes equally sensitive to challenge by opposition parties. The logic that explains the one-leader party tendency in our policy is therefore the same logic that explains the one-party tendency.

You cannot accept the one and deny the other. Thus, until the one-man syndrome within the parties has been overcome, hopes for multi-party democracy must remain pessimistic. Inter-party tolerance must be preceded by intra-party democracy.

STATE STILL PROBING BISHOP'S ACTIVITIES ABROAD

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Dec 83 p 7

[Text]

THE Government is carrying out investigations in some foreign countries about the activities there of detained UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Assembly was told yesterday.

The Minister of State (Security) Cde Emmer- son Munangagwa, told Assembly during question time that should "these investigations prove that the bishop was involved in wrong doing", he would be charged.

Cde Munangagwa was replying on behalf of the Minister of Home Affairs, Cde Herbert Ushewokunze, to a question raised by Mr Tony Berkout (RF, Central) who wanted to know when the cleric would appear in court.

He said it was not in the State's interest to say when the bishop would appear in court because "inquiries involved incidents which took place in other countries".

However, he said, the bishop's detention would be subject to review by

the detentions' review tribunal and the Government would abide by the tribunal's decision.

But the minister did not say when the tribunal would meet to consider Bishop Muzorewa's case.

Asked by the Rep- ublican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, why the Government had not left the cleric alone until investigations into his case were complete, Cde Munangagwa said: "We were aware of his intentions on the trip he wanted to undertake to South Africa."

Asked further why the Government did not confiscate the bishop's passport instead of detaining him, the minister replied: "The passport does not travel. It's the person who travels."

Brigadier John Probert (RF, Borrowdale) said the bishop's continued detention was doing the country a lot of harm.

But Cde Munangagwa said Zimbabwe was a sovereign state which had its own laws and that every other

sovereign state with whom it had good relations respected the manner in which it was implementing its laws.

"The bishop is being detained in relation to the laws of this country and every sovereign state should respect that," he said.

Mr Silas Mundawarara (UANC, Mashonaland East) asked the minister when "we can expect" individuals appearing in court confessing that they had been sent by the UANC for military training in South Africa.

In reply, the minister said there had been some cases of UANC supporters arrested after undergoing military training in South Africa.

"If you are willing, I will take you to them and they will say they went to South Africa under your leadership," Cde Munangagwa said.

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested on October 31 in Operation Chinyawada which Cde Munangagwa said was to check on subversive elements connected with South African bandits.

CSO: 3400/402

PM CRITICIZES MEN FOR INTERFERING WITH WOMEN'S VOTE

Harare THE HERALD in English 5 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Zanu (PF) men must stop using their influence to have their wives elected to senior posts during women's district and provincial elections, the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, warned yesterday.

"I have not been satisfied with the way the elections have been going on after hearing that some men are interfering in them. Why are they interfering?"

Speaking to an enthusiastic crowd of Mashonaland West Zanu (PF) Women's League, he said there were men in the party who wanted to interfere in women's affairs during their elections and this "is a big error."

"Women should choose their leaders on their own without interference from men. I hear that this has been happening in various districts where men have been imposing their wives as leaders. This should stop immediately," he said.

Instead, he said, men should assist the women to build the party and urged the women party supporters to organise themselves in preparation for their congress next year when their national executive would be elected.

The Prime Minister attacked men who refused their wives to join the women's league and only to "shepherd" them home.

"But the same men give themselves the liberty to sleep at bars and know where various prostitutes live," he said amid cheers and ululations from the women. Cde Mugabe said women and the youth were the backbone of the party and the support enjoyed by Zanu (PF) from women put other political parties to shame.

"You should work together to build the party at grassroots level, discarding tribalism at all costs. Zanu (PF) is more important than looking at your totems, or what languages you speak. Totems are important only when we deal with our traditional customs.

"It has not been established to which tribes the heroes of the Battle of Chinhoyi belonged because it was not important. They fought for Zimbabwe," he said.

Cde Mugabe said divisions among blacks pleased the whites.

"We should stop that system that impresses them and work together."

The Prime Minister briefly outlined the Zanu (PF) history and said that it had been unwavering since it was formed while other political parties had changed their names and deeds on numerous occasions.

Speaking at the same meeting, the Minister for Community Development and Women's Affairs, Cde Teurai Ropa Nhongo told the women that she had received reports of some Zanu (PF) women being barred from joining women's clubs because they belonged to the ruling party. The clubs were being considered as more important than the party.

"The clubs or such organisations should come out in the open if they are UANC or any other political party."

She urged people to join Zanu (PF) before the registers were closed and "would not be opened for members who came late."

The minister said a shop would soon be opened in Harare which would buy all women's handicrafts so they could be sold from one place.

CSO: 3400/402

NEW REGULATIONS MODIFYING LAW ON VAGRANTS ISSUED

Harare THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] EMERGENCY powers regulations gazetted yesterday modifying the Vagrancy Act empower rehabilitation officers to bar vagrants from urban areas for three months or hold them in rehabilitation centres.

Rehabilitation officers are appointed by the Minister of Labour and Social Services in terms of the Emergency Powers (Vagrancy Act (Chapter 92): Modification) Regulations.

The original Act defines a vagrant as: a beggar; any person wandering about and unable to show he has employment or sufficient means of subsistence; people in urban areas without lawful residence; people in urban areas without jobs or adequate income from self-employment; people living off prostitution; people not living in a proper house and without adequate income; people who tell fortunes or play games of chance to cheat the public; and any "person who is unable to show that he is living by honest means and has a settled way of honest living".

Under the original Act a police officer could arrest any suspected vagrant without a warrant and had to take the suspect before a magistrate or district commissioner within 48 hours.

Yesterday's modification also gives the police the option of taking the suspect to a holding centre which will accept the suspect so long as a section officer or above has certified that the suspect has been arrested in terms of the appropriate section.

Once in the centre, the suspect must be brought before a rehabilitation officer within five days or released. The officer shall then, say the new regulations, decide if the person is a vagrant and can adjourn the hearing for more information or other good cause. Anyone found not to be a vagrant must be released.

No time limit is given in the regulations for the hearings but the original Act gives magistrates and district commissioners 28 days to complete the hearing.

The rehabilitation officer can order that the vagrant be held in a rehabilitation centre or can order the vagrant be barred from all or some urban areas for up to three months.

Orders to hold people in rehabilitation centres will have the same force of law as a magistrate's orders ordering people to re-establishment centres in the original Act, and barring orders the same force as those that district commissioners can issue.

People ordered to a rehabilitation centre by a rehabilitation officer can appeal to the Minister of Labour and Social Services.

In the original Act those appealing against a magistrate's order had to appeal to the President and the regulations state that references to the President and a magistrate shall be construed as references to the minister and the rehabilitation officer.

Rehabilitation officers have also been given the same powers as district commissioners to allow, under conditions, people barred from an area to re-enter that area if they can give good reasons.

The regulations, in the transitional arrangements, deem any vagrant held in a place under the control of the minister to be in a re-establishment centre and to have been detained there under an order of a rehabilitation officer.

CSO: 3400/367

KADOMA IS WORKING SAYS SHAMUYARIRA

Harare THE HERALD in English 6 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] The purpose of the Kadoma Declaration is being achieved with three international news agencies having now established offices in Harare instead of covering Zimbabwe through Johannesburg-based correspondents, the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, said yesterday.

The minister was responding to a Press statement by the International Press Institute and a broadcast yesterday by the BBC.

He said: "We would like to correct the erroneous impression created by a Press statement from the IPI in Zurich that the Kadoma Declaration which bans correspondents based in South Africa from covering Frontline States, is in any way an attack on Press freedom and basic human rights.

"The main thrust of the declaration is to increase cooperation among Frontline States media organisations and also to facilitate coverage of these countries by foreign media.

"The purpose is being achieved. Three international news agencies have now established their offices in Harare, instead of covering Zimbabwe through Johannesburg-based correspondents.

"It is unfortunate that the IPI appears to be preoccupied with the so-called freedom of the Press and not some of the rampant abuse of that freedom by a number of journalists operating from South Africa.

"The IFI is on a collision course with Third World countries if it defends the rights of even racist and unscrupulous journalists to write slanderous and malicious articles about our countries in their newspapers.

"In reply to another erroneous report broadcast by the BBC today: there is no relaxation of the implementation of the Declaration."

CSO: 3400/403

NORWEGIAN AID ORGANIZATION MAKES DONATIONS

Harare THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] A NORWEGIAN aid organisation, Redd Barna (Save the Children), yesterday gave four tractors to two cooperatives and pledged continued support to the groups for the next three years for their agricultural and community needs.

The tractors, valued at \$116 060, were given to the Kuenda Co-operative in Mount Darwin and the Gowe Co-operative in Kadoma because the two did not have machinery to enable them to undertake large-scale agricultural production.

The Secretary for Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Dr Langford Chitsike, who was at the handover ceremony, said he hoped that it would still be possible for the settlers at the two co-operatives to make use of the machinery "and join the ranks of the successful commercial farmers in Zimbabwe". Provision had also been made for the supply of building materials for schools, clinics and houses as well as training courses for the members of the two co-operatives.

The Redd Barna was officially recognised in June this year when an agreement between the organisation and the Government was signed. Since then an ambitious programme has been launched to assist the resettlement schemes in the country.

The total cost of this programme, stretching over a four-year period, is more than \$4 million.

Assist

Alghouth not normally a relief agency, Redd Barna, has provided the supplementary feeding programme in Masvingo with a \$45 000 7-tonne truck to assist in the distribution of drought relief food.

In addition, the organisation has agreed to a request by the Department of Nutrition to provide bean seeds as part of the supplementary feeding programme's plan of providing a small crop at each of the 800 feeding stations throughout the country.

The Redd Barna has also pledged \$7 000 for the National Tree Planting Day to assist in conservation education which is desperately needed in various parts of the country.

The chairman of the Kuenda Co-operative, Cde Wilfred Marimo, who was also at the ceremony, thanked Redd Barna for its assistance to the two co-operatives, which he said were established by former combatants.

"We want to assure you that we will take care of this machinery. We will not misues the tractors by using them as caterpillars. We will use them properly and accordingly," he said.

The Redd Barna representative in Zimbabwe, Mr Roger Ing, said the tractors represented a "small but significant" element of his organisation's assistance to the Government's resettlement programmes.

"Our aim is to assist children worldwide and our programme here in Zimbabwe is to assist children in resettlement areas and we believe that the best way to help them is by making sure that they live in viable and productive communities. The only way to do that is to give the necessary support."

Dr Chitsike, in thanking Redd Barna, said the ministry hoped that such type of co-operation between the organisation and the Government would continue.

CSO: 3400/367

ECONOMY NOT DETERIORATING, EXPORT EARNINGS INCREASING--CHIDZERO

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Dec 83 p 7

[Text]

THE Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, yesterday assured Parliament that Zimbabwe's economy was not deteriorating and that export earnings were increasing.

He was replying to a question from Republican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, who had asked the minister to give the most recent revenue and expenditure position "in view of the continuing deterioration of the nation's economy".

Cde Chidzero dismissed Mr Smith's allegations as "completely unsubstantiated and indeed unfounded".

The minister said revenue and grants collected amounted to \$558.5 million while total expenditure and net lending amounted to \$675.8 million.

The excess of expenditure over revenue, he said, was \$117.3 million and was "in fact very satisfactory".

"I am happy to say that our export earnings are increasing," he said.

Cde Chidzero said any attempt to forecast the position at the end of the fiscal year in June next year, would be "premature and misleading".

The economy, he said, was subject to changes and in Zimbabwe's case there was the question of the drought which would have a bearing on the country's productive capacity.

The minister said, however, that he was convinced that the "prudent" measures taken by the Government such as cuts in Government expenditure, restraint in wages, reduction in subsidies, coupled with the re-adjustment of the exchange rates, were beginning to have an impact.

He also said the Government would, at a more appropriate time, review the state of the economy and this could be in six months time.

CSO: 3400/402

PRESIDENT URGES PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE, FUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 4 Dec 83 p 1

[Text]

LASTING development is assured only when local people rise to the challenge of their development needs and are prepared to sacrifice and fund these from their own pockets, said President Banana in Mutare last night.

The President, who earlier in the day led a tree-planting ceremony at a city school, was speaking at a fund-raising dinner organised by the Manicaland Development Committee.

He thanked the Dutch agency, Novib, for the help it had given the MDC and several district development committees, plus other funding agencies playing a role in the province but added:

"The MDC would be very unwise if it solely depended on donations from international or local organisations for developing their regions.

"Admittedly, at initial stages, capital is a prerequisite if any project is to take off. However, long-term and lasting development is assured only when local people rise up to the challenge of their developmental needs and are prepared to sacrifice and fund these from their own pockets."

Ode Banana urged organisers of development programmes to consult workers and peasants on development projects affecting their areas so that they could fully commit themselves to fulfilling the programmes.

"I urge you not to disregard the human factor in the process of development. Once this factor is recognised, the individual material benefit is enhanced. So it is our sacred duty to maximise and cultivate correct and appropriate human relations in order to ensure total participation by the people in our development programmes."

He was pleased the MDC aimed at encouraging understanding, friendship and co-operative development projects as development was often retarded by sectional jealousies, hatred and suspicions.

"Harmony can be disturbed if those charged with the task of organising the co-operatives engage in practices which are unbecoming such as embezzling funds, using the co-operative's property — cars, lorries, tools and so on — for private purposes.

"It is only when the officials of co-operatives demonstrate complete accountability in all aspects, especially financial management, that confidence and trust will be instilled in the hearts of the members of the co-operatives."

He congratulated the MDC for setting up the Chitepo Agricultural Training Centre, plus the efforts to train people in making household goods, thatching, primary health care, husbandry, market gardening, livestock projects and small irrigation schemes. "This type of development does not need much money; it only needs dedication and hard work on the part of the people."

MINISTER KANGAI ON TRADE UNIONS' VITAL ROLE IN SOCIALIST SOCIETY

Harare THE HERALD in English 6 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] The Government attaches strong importance to labour issues within the framework of its overall objective of attaining an egalitarian, socialist society and would like to see a dynamic and effective trade union movement, the acting Minister of Manpower Planning and Development, Cde Kumbirai Kangai, said yesterday.

Speaking at a seminar on Research and Training Needs of Trade Unions in Harare, the minister said on numerous occasions the Government had emphasised the importance of a dynamic and effective trade union movement which would provide a forum for all workers and represent their interests.

"We are committed to the establishment of a united organisation for the workers and in this task, trade unions have the fullest cooperation of the Government. Our legislation and measures since independence clearly indicate this commitment," he said.

He told the seminar--organised by the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies and attended by delegates from SADCC, that because the workers played a vanguard role in attaining an egalitarian, socialist society, "we have accepted the need to redress the problems which our working masses faced during the colonial period and heroically struggled against for better living and working conditions."

Since independence, he told delegates, the Government has vigorously initiated measures, not only to improve the working conditions of the workers, but also to give them democratic rights.

Some of the measures include the establishment of workers committees--whose primary role was to enhance the democratic participation of workers in the decision-making process as well as facilitate the flow of information between the workers and management.

Encouraging

Cde Kangai said in addition, the Government has been seriously encouraging the formation of viable national trade union structures at all levels.

"These measures have greatly increased the representation and, simultaneously extended the role and scope of the active participation of the workers in the economy."

The minister said the trade union organisations which the Government visualised were those which involved ordinary working people and were concerned with issues directly affecting their lives, wages and working conditions. "These issues constitute the central part of the demands and the struggle of the workers."

He made it clear that although trade unions might differ in their organisational structures--based on occupation and enterprise, their central objectives were the same.

One of the vital functions of trade unions was their ability and responsibility to train ordinary workers to acquire skills and make them aware of their crucial role in production and the economy.

"It is with these objectives that we regard this seminar as crucially important. It should be seen as complementary to the efforts by the Government to introduce progressive industrial relations."

CSO: 3400/403

DIFFICULTIES IN DROUGHT STRICKEN COUNTRYSIDE DESCRIBED

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Dec 83 p 7

[Article by Simomo Mubi]

[Text] Heavy rain fell in Pfungwe communal lands for the first time in a year on Thursday when Christian Care drove its first convoy of trucks carrying food and seed packs into the drought-stricken area.

But the joy of hundreds of people who stood patiently in pouring rain waiting for their provisions was muted. Their cattle were slaughtered during the war and they had no oxen to plough their land--tilling by hand would take weeks before all the seed was planted.

At the request of the provincial drought relief committee, Christian Care took over from the Department of Social Services the drought relief programme of Karamba District Council an area including Uzumba, Maramba and Pfungwe.

Christian Care would assume complete responsibility for drought aid in Karamba from this month until April next year. This meant feeding 1 000 families, a total of 4 456 people, at a cost of \$18 000 a month.

Maize, beans, cooking oil, salt and seed, would be given to each destitute family according to size, said Christian Care's executive secretary Cde Valentine Ziswa.

He said the commodities and the amounts were selected with reference to the Ministry of Health and the World Food Programme's nutritional criteria.

The supply of seeds was essential to any drought relief programme, said Cde Ziswa.

"This is necessary to offset the multiple effect of a drought situation. Because people hit by drought have little or no harvest, they have no money to buy seed in preparation for the next season even though weather conditions might be more favourable. People have to be helped to help themselves," he said.

As the area had been hit by a fierce drought for three years it was best suited to the cultivation of millet and sorghum. Unfortunately the only seed available was maize.

Charitable

"Importing the other seed from charitable organisations overseas would be wholly unproductive as we need local seed that has been adapted to Zimbabwe's climatic conditions," he said.

The situation in Karamba was further exacerbated by the fact that there were virtually no cattle in the area. Most of the livestock died in the war when the locals were rounded up into protected villages.

Three years ago there was only one heifer to be seen for miles around, said the acting district councillor, Cde Francis Pomerayi.

"The people are steadily trying to replenish their stock, but it's not happening fast enough."

Farmers had been encouraged to help each other till their land in a rotating system to ease the problem. Importing oxen from Matabeleland had been suggested.

Cde Duncan Nyadere, a young farmer with five children, although happy about the rainfall, was daunted by the task that lay ahead of ploughing by hand.

"As soon as the rain stops, you shall see us in the fields. It will be very hard work without any oxen, but we have to try and help ourselves."

Sadly, Cde Nyadere's philosophical approach was not totally representative of the people in the area. Some had become so accustomed to being provided for through the extended family network and Government during the drought--getting regular monthly provisions--that farming had become unpopular.

But Cde Pomerayi said the district council had worked hard to instil the message of self-help into the people. Those who lagged behind or were not making the necessary effort would not get food next year.

CSO: 3400/403

SMALL SCALE FARMERS' SITUATION SAID TO BE BETTER THIS SEASON

Harare THE HERALD in English 6 Dec 83 p 7

[Text]

SMALL-SCALE farmers in the Murewa and Mutoko areas are more prepared this season than in any other year after independence, Zanu (PF) Mashonaland East Province official, Senator Agrippa Makunde, said recently.

He said a record number of fertiliser bags had been bought this year. "We are only praying for good rains," said Senator Makunde.

An official of the Agricultural Finance Corporation said long-term and medium-term loans granted to individual and group farmers in Mutoko, Chiwaka, Goromonzi, Chinamora and Murewa would amount to \$6 337 899 this year.

Last year, farmers in these areas received \$3 459 108. Senator Makunde said an important factor in current AFC loans was the provision of money to buy cattle for ploughing.

In the 1982/83 season, \$6 300 in loans for buying cattle and tractors was made available by

AFC. The figure has risen to \$33 306 in the current 1983/84 season, an AFC spokesman said.

Senator Makunde said this money can now be used to buy any farming machinery from carts to ploughs, cultivators and spare parts for tractors. An AFC statement says the company has bought one tractor for the area valued at \$15 000 this year.

Said Senator Makunde: "This shows clearly that this is a people's Government."

He said the Government had agreed to make itself the guarantor to loans small-scale farmers were getting from the Agricultural Finance Corporation.

The highest amount offered by AFC this season is 10 897 short-term loans amounting to \$4 110 089. This is about \$3 million more than the company lent to small-scale farmers last season.

AFC has also approved

406 short-term group loans this season amounting to \$2 131 208, the spokesman said.

The value of medium-term loans is still very low compared to short-term ones. In the 1982/83 season, the value of individual short-term loans amounted to \$49 181 and have only nearly doubled to \$80 470 this season as compared to more than \$4 million individual short-term loans granted this season.

The number and value of medium-term loans granted to groups is also very low compared to short-term loans granted to such groups as co-operatives. In the 1982/83 season, three medium-term loans amounting to \$10 700 were granted by AFC as compared to 238 short-term ones valued at \$1 404 996.

This year only two medium-term group loans have been approved amounting to \$16 222 as compared to 406 short-term ones amounting to \$2 131 208.

CSO: 3400/403

IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT STRESSED

Harare THE HERALD in English 6 Dec 83 p 5

[Text]

THE cornerstone of development and self-reliance of communal people in Zimbabwe is their ability and capacity to produce maize, says the Secretary for Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Dr Langford Chitsike.

Addressing guests at the recent Maize Grower of the Year prize-giving ceremony in Harare, Dr Chitsike said failure to produce enough maize would create a vicious circle of poverty beginning with the communal sector and continuing until it affected the entire economy.

He said that without maize the rural population would lose the energy needed for the production of their basic needs, leading to handouts from urban and foreign sources.

CHANNELLING RELIEF

By channelling food relief to starving rural people, the Government would be forced to reduce development funds in order to meet immediate consumption needs.

Opposite trends would take place if and when there was adequate production of staple food. There would be energy not only for the production of staple food, but also for other food-stuffs that promote good health and a sound mind.

Dr Chitsike added: "It is often argued that people in communal lands are conservative and therefore do not respond to economic incentives. However, there is ample evidence to reject this line of argument."

On other fronts Dr Chitsike said about 100 000 had entered the labour market in recent years, but only half of them were absorbed into the wage sector.

The answer to meeting the needs of the unemployed seemed to lie in the expansion and development of rural agriculture he said.

Efficient and increased production of maize and other crops would increase employment, raise income and restore food self-sufficiency.

To increase staple food production, a package of supportive services and incentives would have to be provided by the Government, industrial and commercial sectors as well as rural development agencies.

Since independence the Government had continuously increased its supportive services to the rural sector. Through its resettlement programme it had settled over 80 000 families.

There had been a major increase in the price of maize and agricultural credit for the small-scale sector had increased from \$1 million in 1978 to about \$30 million this year.

TRAINING COURSES

There were massive agricultural co-operative training courses taking place throughout the country and vehicles, including motorbikes, had been deployed to facilitate the exercise.

There were fleets of tractors nearing the 300 mark engaged in tillage in communal and resettlement areas. Over 400 warehouses and distribution depots were being constructed throughout the country to facilitate the distribution of supplies like fertilisers and equipment — as well as the collection of agricultural produce for marketing in urban areas.

Small irrigation schemes were being revitalised for the production of green mealies and vegetables through improved reticulation and better water pumping machinery.

The Government was also pleased to see an increased interest by the private sector in the development of agricultural and agro-based industrial activity.

Of the communal maize grower of the year contest, Dr Chitsike said: "I wish to thank Agricura and Agritex for creating yet another incentive for increased production which promotes stability, good neighbourliness and a strong spirit of unity with other African countries."

HARARE CITY COUNCIL TO BUILD 750 NEW HOUSES

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] About 15 000 housing stands will be ready for development in Harare within a year, the Minister of Housing, Cde Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, has said.

In an interview with The Herald this week, Cde Mumbengegwi said Harare was on the threshold of a housing construction boom.

"More than 6 000 of these stands are now ready for allocation. These stands are: Parkridge and Fountainbleau Phase One, 4 135; Warren D, 1 696; Hatcliffe, 763 and Dzivarasekwa, 454.

"Parkridge and Fountainbleau Phases Two, Three and Four have a total of 8 760 stands. The infrastructure for Phase Two is being laid.

This is the third major housing project to run concurrently with two other approved housing schemes in Warren Park D where over 750 houses would be put up and 450 in Dzivarasekwa. The Hatcliffe project would now be approved by the Ministry of Local Government and Town Planning.

The Minister of Housing, Cde Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, on Thursday said that he was disappointed that Hatcliffe seemed not to be a priority area after the council started working on Dzivarasekwa and Warren Park D projects.

He said if the council had used \$1,5 million allocated to it by the Ministry of Housing during the past financial year, more than 700 houses would have been near completion in Hatcliffe and the money had not been used because the Harare City Council did not take up the question of building houses there.

The housing project, of \$4 086 960, would be funded by the Government and the Harare City Council's Housing Development Fund. The Ministry of Housing had agreed that 749 houses be put up in a joint project with the council.

Harare has a backlog of 34 000 families on the waiting list and its proposed housing projects would reduce the families by about 2 000 excluding the Parkridge-Fountainbleau local government area which was tied to foreign aid.

But the director of community services and housing, Mr Bev Taylor, still appealed for more families to register on the waiting list to enable accurate planning for the Harare City Council.

The chairman of the health, housing and community services committee, Councillor Solomon Tawengwa, said yesterday that contractors had developed the infrastructure of Hatcliffe's roads and sewerage.

But the roads had not been tarred and the sewerage had not been tested.

Said Cir Tawengwa: "When we found that the Parkridge-Fountainbleau local government area housing scheme had been delayed because of foreign tied aid, we decided to have housing projects implemented in Dzivarasekwa, Warren Park D and Hatcliffe."

He said problems in implementing the Hatcliffe project--which did not belong to the council and was yet to be brought under its jurisdiction--were that the sewerage system was of low standard and that services needed to be updated.

CSO: 3400/402

CHIDZERO CALLS TREE PLANTING 'NATIONAL INVESTMENT'

Eucalyptus Seedlings

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 4 Dec 83 p 1

[Text]

EIGHTEEN thousand eucalyptus seedlings were planted at the Hatcliffe Estate near Domboshawa on National Tree Day yesterday.

About 160 soldiers from Harare District and One Commando, as well as Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, members of the Borrowdale Residential and Ratepayers' Association, the Association of Women's Clubs, senators, deputy ministers and other Government and Harare City Council representatives planted the 11 ha site in less than a morning.

The land had been ploughed by the Forestry Commission and the 18 000 seedlings, worth over \$700, were donated by BAT Zimbabwe.

The National Tree Day committee's slogan for this year is Plant a tree in '83 and grow some more for '84.

BP-Shell sponsored yesterday's plant-in at \$50 for the first tree planted by the Prime Minister or his representative and \$10 for the first tree planted by Minister Victoria Chitepo or her representative plus 1c for every other tree planted bringing the total to \$240.

The chairman of the National Tree Day committee, Mr Ian MacLel-

ian, of the Forestry Commission, said they had raised \$7 750 worth of sponsorship to provide seed packs to schools and women's clubs throughout the country.

The packs would contain 10 g of eucalyptus seeds, 400 tubes, instructions on planting and care, and insecticide, from which it was hoped one million seedlings would be raised.

The woodlot planted at the Hatcliffe Estate would be providing fuel and poles in five to six years, depending on rainfall. The Forestry Commission had already planted 80 ha last year and would be responsible for the maintenance.

The Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, said yesterday that planting more trees was a national investment for trees were the wealth of the nation.

He told a tree planting ceremony at Ellis Robins' School, Harare, that in many rural areas there were very few natural trees remaining and some places had been turned into virtual semi-deserts.

"What our parents enjoyed we no longer have; indeed, in many

areas women have to travel long distances away from home in search of firewood.

"It is an agonising problem which those of us who are urban dwellers do not perhaps fully appreciate." But it made no sense to plant millions of trees unless they were looked after, said the minister.

He appealed to people to plant their fuelwood plantations as the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, had asked.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the National Tree Day committee, Mr MacLennan, has spelt out five important rules which should be followed if trees were to be grown successfully.

He said a prospective tree grower should ask for advice on what type of tree grows best in his area from the Forestry Commission, Agritex or from a natural resources officer.

Strong and healthy seedlings of the right size should be planted. It is essential to plant early in the rains as soon as the soil is thoroughly moist, down to 30 cm.

The trees must be kept free of weeds until they can shade the weeds out. Fire and livestock must be kept away from the young trees.

Program To Cost \$9 Million

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 4 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] A \$9 million rural afforestation programme to be funded jointly by the Government and the World Bank is now ready for implementation, the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, said yesterday.

Speaking at the fourth anniversary of the National Tree Day at Mandedza School in Seke communal land, Cde Mugabe said the programme, which will be directed by the Forestry Commission, would be spread over four years.

The Prime Minister said the programme will involve intensive staff training to be followed by an extension drive in the communal lands where 48 tree nurseries will be established to supply village woodlots and plantations.

Cde Mugabe said the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism had prepared a national conservation strategy for Zimbabwe.

The programme was being vigorously pursued by a high-level Government committee which would involve a cross-section of the society to give the strategy a truly national character.

The several hundred people present at Mandedza yesterday planted 200 trees over a hectare of land. Youth brigades displays and Zanu (PF) choirs entertained the crowd.

Cde Mugabe said the idea of placing strong emphasis on tree preservation and proper utilisation arose from the concern of Government about the widespread devastation of the environment which had occurred in many parts of the country.

CSO: 3400/405

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

NEW DAM AT HALISUPI--The people of Halisupi in the Gwanda communal area have built a dam funded by the Lutheran World Federation at a cost of \$17 000, to provide them with water for domestic and irrigation purposes. Opening the dam yesterday, the Minister of Water Resources and Development, Cde Cephas Msipa, said that although the dam was just half full and therefore sufficient only for domestic use, the people could be optimistic that the dam would later be used for agriculture. He praised the people for building the dam and advised them to use the water wisely and sparingly so it was not wasted. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Dec 83 p 4]

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